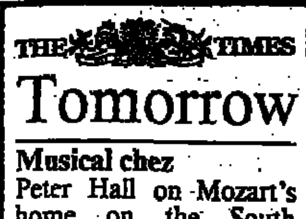
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THE TIMES

FRIDAY MAY 11 1984

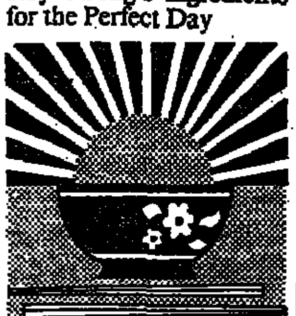
20p



Tomorrow

Musical chez
Peter Hall on Mozart's home on the South Downs

Bed and board
Four - poster, stately home, Japanese food... Roy Strong's ingredients for the Perfect Day



Feet into miles
Pat Butcher and David Powell preview the 21,000-strong London Marathon – the greatest marathon ever staged

Irishize
Who's Irish when it comes to choosing top Irish authors?

Rolls-Royce to get £60m aid

The Government is to inject £60m of public money into the state-owned Rolls-Royce company to help with Britain's participation in the five-nation V2500 aero-engine project. The aid will be repaid as a levy on sales.

Britain starts air fare war

Britain is starting an air fare price war in the EEC by surrendering its right to interfere in the fixing of rates for flights within the Community. Fares between London and Amsterdam have already been cut by two-thirds.

Rail threat

Railway unions are to announce plans today for disruption of services over a pay dispute. The first action will begin in two weeks unless a compromise is found.

Tax scare lifted

The Government in a Commons statement quashed persistent rumours that it was about to end tax relief on lump sum payments from pension funds, taken on retirement.

WPC verdict

WPC Yvonne Fletcher was unlawfully killed by a bullet fired from a window of the Libyan People's Bureau, an inquest decided

Inquest, back page

Reuters trustees

The trustees responsible for keeping Reuters independent when the news and business information agency goes public next month, have been named

Page 19

Pound falls

The pound touched another low against the dollar, falling 1.5 cents to $1.3750 before recovering slightly to close 50 points down at $1.3850 Page 19

Spring break

The House of Commons will rise for the spring adjournment on Friday, May 25 and return on Monday, June 4. The House of Lords rises on May 24.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Agostinho dies

Joaquim Agostinho, the Portuguese cyclist, has died from head unjuries 10 days after crashing during the Tour of Algarve race.

Police preparing clampdown on pit violence

- **Police in Derbyshire are considering putting a limit on numbers picketing outside pits in the county because of a "dramatic change" in miners attitudes**
- **Violent incidents include an attempt by pickets to overturn a coach taking 20 NCB office staff, mostly women, to work**
- **Miners' leaders are expected to ask transport unions for sympathy action in support of the nine-week-old pit strike** Page 2
- **Police halted busloads of pit pickets on way to Ravenscraig and charged 292 with obstruction**

By Craig Seton

Derbyshire police are considering limiting the numbers of striking miners picketing pits and may adopt the policy of stopping flying pickets on the road to counter a "dramatic change" in the attitude of miners involved in the dispute.

Mr Alfred Parish, Chief Constable of Derbyshire, indicating a new hardline approach by his force, said that he was not prepared to allow "intimidation by numbers" or the act of violence and sabotage which had increased in the area in the last few days.

Yesterday, as the miners' strike neared the end of its ninth week, there was further evidence suggesting that at least some striking miners are now adopting increasingly desperate measures.

At Blidworth Colliery, Nottinghamshire, the National Coal Board reported that striking miners, mainly from outside the coalfield, had adopted the tactic of moving away from the pit entrance to picket the homes of miners leaving for work, subjecting them to verbal abuse.

Nineteen pickets were arrested at Ollerton Colliery, near Mansfield, where pickets are now reported to patrol the streets in the early hours watching for house lights being switched on to identify working miners.

Mr Parrish's remarks followed two days in which a number of serious incidents led police to reconsider their tactics.

In one case, a coach taking 20 clerical staff – mainly women – to an NCB office at Duchmanton, Derbyshire, was stopped, apparently by pickets in their cars, and stones were thrown through the windows, slightly injuring several occupants. An attempt was then made to overturn the coach before its driver managed to escape with his bus. Mr Parrish said that the women inside had been terrified.

Mr Parish said that pickets arrested in north Derbyshire so far were Derbyshire miners rather than outsiders. Until now, the force had not as a matter of policy, tried to prevent miners legally picketing or tried to prevent free movement. But when almost 5,000 pickets could turn up at a colliery, he was "not prepared to allow intimidation by numbers of that kind".

"What I am saying is that if there is clear intelligence or evidence of growing number of pickets which we believe will lead to a breach of the peace at NCB pits and property, we will try and prevent it by turning people away."

He added that NCB premises in isolated areas had been attacked in the night and equipment damaged. Police were doing everything they could to prevent such acts but it was difficult.

Asked what Derbyshire police would do if miners on their way to picket a colliery were asked to turn back, and refused, he said: "Let us wait and see."

It is understood the change in tactics Derbyshire police have in mind would be to stop miners making their way to a local pit if it is considered there are already enough present.

Sympathy call, page 2

Olympic appeal: Models in London yesterday showing off the outfits to be worn by the British team at the opening ceremony of the Games in Los Angeles in July

292 charged at Ravenscraig

From Our Correspondent, Glasgow

About 292 miners' pickets were charged with obstruction yesterday after eight buses carrying them tothe Ravenscraig steel works at Motherwell were intercepted by Strathclyde police.

The miners, from Fyfe, were stopped on the A80 near Stepps. They disembarked, sat down and linked arms, blocking the road. Police appeals for them to move were ignored and six busloads were then arrested.

They were taken to police stations in Glasgow and charged. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

More than 130 lorries in five convoys went into Ravenscraig unchallenged yesterday. There was a picket of only 30 miners, some from the Durham coalfield, and they were outnumbered three to one by police.

Mr Rory Nicholson, Strathclyde's assistant chief constable, defended police tactics and rejected accusations that they were infringing civil liberties by stopping the buses.

Ravenscraig management last night offered to halt the lorry convoys if miners would guarantee at least two coal trains a day. Tugboat crews on the Clyde have voted to black oil and coal ships carrying supplies for Ravenscraig.

In Nottinghamshire, 35 arrests were made on picket lines as more than 3,500 pickets gathered at the still-working pits. More than 2,500 were at Bevercotes colliery, near Retford.

● The Prime Minister yesterday condemned the violence between pickets and police at the Ravenscraig steel works and the Hunterston terminal on the Clyde.

During sharp Commons exhanges on the strike Mrs Margaret Thatcher was accused by Mr Tony Benn, Labour MP for Chesterfield, of trying to starve the miners into accepting pit closures.

Parliamentary Report, page 4

Bureau gun link with dead Libyan

By Our Political Correspondent

Ministers confirmed last night that forensic scientists may have found a link between one of the guns found in the Libyan People's Bureau and the assassination of a Libyan citizen in Britain some time ago.

Mr Max Madden, Labour MP for Bradford, West, yesterday raised the point during Commons questions to the Prime Minister, but Mrs Thatcher failed to respond to the specific suggestion.

Labour Weekly, the party newspaper, also carried a front page report by Mr Ken Hyder, a journalist who has specialized in Scotland Yard leaks, which said that the evidence linking the bureau gun with a previous killing had been classified secret by the Home Office.

He also said that some of the seven weapons found by the police had been traced to a British arms dealer and added: "Many police officers are privately bitter over the way pressure was exerted on them during the siege which ended with them escorting their colleague's murderer out of the country."

Mr Madden said last night that the new evidence, taken together with a Central Television programme on covert operations from the South African Embassy, emphasized the need for an independent inquiry into unacceptable diplomatic activities.

Mrs Thatcher rejected the Commons requests for inquiries

Inquest verdict, back page

No-one dared tell Foot to resign

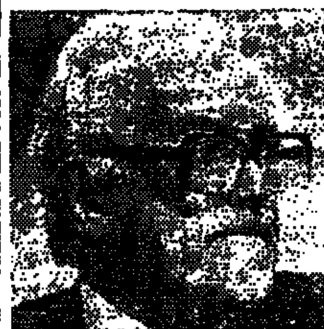
By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

A member of the Shadow Cabinet said last night that Mr Michael Foot had not been asked to quit the Labour leadership before the last election because no one of enough standing could be found "to deliver the black spot."

Mr Foot says in his forthcoming book about the election, *Another Heart and Other Pulses*, that he had rejected the thought of resignation before the General Election as cowardly and futile.

He argues that resignation would have been regarded as complete capitulation to the Tory press and even if Mr Denis Healey had taken over, the Labour campaign would have been dogged by questions about Mr Healey's chances in a conference leadership ballot which would have taken place withing four months of the General Election.

Mr Foot also points out that only two Labour MPs told him to his face that he should not be



Mr Foot: Rejected idea of resignation

leading the party – Mr Jeff Rooker, who made the point in November 1982, and Mr Gerald Kaufman, who raised the matter during the election campaign a year ago.

One member of the Shadow Cabinet who was engaged in at least one of the secret conspiracies to resolve "the leadership problem" said last night: "There was a moment when it might have been possible to have raised it with Michael, but the Darlington result and *The Times* speculation about his leadership made it impossible."

A Shadow Cabinet colleague who was also fully aware of closed-door discussions said that the parlimentary party could not have moved against Mr Foot because they would have been accused of being right-wing reactionaries moving against a truly socialist leader.

"The trade unions were wringing their hands about the leadership, but no coalition could be found to diliver the black spot.

"There was no consensus; no one was willing to act; we all talked about it incesantly, but is would have been futile to have gone along – a group of MPs with no real power or authority behind it. What was needed was a group from the TUC or the national executive."

He added that what had particularly upset him at the time was the outright disloyalty of those close to Mr Foot. "Some of Michael's best friends bear the heaviest responsibility for what happened.

Fears grow for 1988 Olympic Games

From Richard Owen
Moscow

Diplomats said here yesterday that if efforts to persuade the Russians to take part in the Los Angeles Olympic Games fail during the next few weeks, Moscow may well boycott the next Olympiad in South Korea *in four years time, spelling* doom for the modern Olympic movement.

East Germany yesterday followed the Soviet and Bulgarian lead and pulled out of the Los Angeles Games. It said that the security of the participants had not been guaranteed and the "honour, dignity and life" of East German athletes had to be protected.

Sources here said Soviet intentions would become clearer when President Kim Il Sung of North Korea visits Moscow later this month. He will follow Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, who has said he hopes to persuade the Soviet leadership to retract its decision not to go to Los Angeles before the June 2 deadline.

Señor Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said yesterday he hoped to meet President Chernenko in the near future in Moscow. Señor Samaranch said he would be taking a letter from President Reagan with him to Moscow. He described the letter as "very very important" and said it contained "many reassurances".

Two other senior Olympic officials are expected in Moscow today to begin last-ditch negotiations. They are to meet Mr Marat Gramov, the chairman of the Soviet Olympic Committee, which announced on Tuesday that conditions in Los Angeles made it "impossible for the Soviet Union to participate".

● **Loss to Sport:** East Germany's failure to appear in Los Angeles would have a devastating effect on athletics and swimming. In recent years, the East German sprinters and swimmers have been virtually unbeatable (Our Sports Staff writes).

Karamanlis offer, page 6

Journalists back Express editor

By Robin Young

The resignation of the editor of the *Daily Express*, Sir Larry Lamb, remained inoperative yesterday. Journalists on the paper voted overwhelmingly to support him against pressure from the print union Sogat 82 to allow Mr Arthur Scargill right of reply to a three-page attack which the *Express* carried on Wednesday.

In the House of Commons, the Prime Minister also rallied to Sir Larry's cause, though the *Express's* proprietor Lord Matthews, had threatened to overrule him.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher said the press freedom "will soon be lost threats to stop production succeed in obtaining space in newspapers for the propagation of particular points of view".

Leading figures in the Labour Party, by contrast, were delighted by Lord Matthews' apparent willingness to grant a right of reply. They hoped this might curb the enthusiasm of national newspaper editors for attacks on trade union figures.

The 2,000-word reply by the miners' leader arrived at the *Express* officer during the day, but it remained unclear last night whether it would be printed in this morning's newspaper. If not it is likely to appear tomorrow. Lord Matthews, who refused all day to comment, was reported to be unhapy with its length and vituperative language.

Sir Larry, whose offer to resign remained unaccepted, also had no comment. The editing of the paper was in the hands of his deputy, Mr Leith McGrandle.

A crowded meeting of the *Daily Express* chapel (office branch) of the National Union of Journalists voted overwhelmingly to refuse to process Mr Scargill's article until Mr William Keys, general secretary of Sogat 82, withdraws his threat to close the paper.

Sogat leaders at the *Express* last night regretted the journalists' resolution.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Spurs fans leave 13 in cells

From Ian Murray
Brussels

Most of Tottenham Hotspur's 8,000 fans left Belgium yesterday, with 13 of their number still in police custody. In a 24-hour period the invasion from North London confirmed all the worst stories about British soccer hooliganism which had been haunting the Brussels authorities and café owners since they learnt that Spurs were to play Andrlacht in the UEFA Cup final.

One Tottenham Supporter had been shot dead and two others shot and wounded. Four policemen were injured – two when British fans turne over a police car and the other when arrested fans set about their escort and broke one of his legs and an arm. One Anderlecht supporter was taken to hospital with a stab wound in the back.

In total 50 policemen and 43 fans needed hospital treatment. The police operation to contain the fans will probably cost about 500,000. Some 560 riot police were deployed.

A total 141 fans were arrested. The 13 still held are accused of grevious bodily harm, possessing illegal weapons, causing wilfull damage, assault, theft and "rebellion" (resisting arrest). It could be up to three months before some appear before court.

A Belgian bar owner has been charged with murdering Irish fan Brian Flanagan, aged 18, from Finsbury Park, London.

The other two fans shot were William Worley, aged 19, from Biggleswade, Bedfordshire and Paul Adamson, aged 25m from Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire.

The Prime Minister yesterday apologized for the violence ano said that the Government condemned it.

Parliamentary report, page 4
Stuart Jones page 25

Fears of trouble for top US bank

By Wayne Lintott

The Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago, the eighth largest bank in America and one of the leading 40 in the world, was fighting a growing wave of speculation yesterday that it is in financial difficulty.

The bank was hindered in doing business on the wholesale money market and its share price dropped sharply on Wall Street.

The United States authorities issued hurried statements in an attempt to calm the markets while the bank refused to make any comment after having denied that it had applied for bankruptcy protection earlier in the week.

Continental operates throughout the world, including in London's financial markets, and employs 12,000 people. Declared assets are £30 billion and outstanding liabilities amount to £27 billion.

The bank has suffered heavy losses from loans to the US energy industries and last month sold its credit card business for £724m. The senior management resigned and were quickly replaced.

On Wall Street suggestions that a consortium of foreign banks, led by Mitsubishi Bank of Japan, was mounting a rescue were quickly denied by the United States Comptroller of Currency. Mr C. Todd Conover. He also said that he was "unaware of any major changes in Continental Illinois trading operations."

Spokesmen for the bank were also unprepared to discuss whether Continental had approached the Federal Reserve Board for assistance.

A leading dealer on the New York money markets told *The Times*: "Some banks are not taking Continental Illinois's paper at the moment."

This usually signals that the bank's status is in doubt in the vital inter-bank money markets.

However, leading American banking analysts were quick to defend the bank. Mr Lawrence Fuller, analyst at leading brokers Drexel Burnham Lambert, said: "The rumours are unfounded. The bank has some problems with non-performing loans. But even if earnings are not meaningful, the bank has enormous hidden assets that they can convert if necessary."

At the end of 1983 the bank had to increase its reserves for potential losses to £290m. But US officials stressed that Continental's capital ratio – the major indication of its underlying strength – was still 5.8 per cent, an acceptable figure compared with other leading US Banks.

However, at the end of the first quarter of this year the bank was holding £1.6 billion in what the Americans term nonperforming loans, loans that are not being repaid or are awaiting some form of rescheduling.

Market report, page 20

Debenhams to move into house sales

By Jonathan Clare

Debenhams, one of the most familar names in the high street, is to enter the house selling business with a service which could break the buying chain bottle-neck.

Debenhams has two big advantages: the number of people passing through its stores, putting buyers and seller in contact, and its financial strength which will provide new services like bridging loans to get buying chains moving.

Nor does the group rule out buying a house to start a stalled chain moving.

Debenhams may also experiment with oppening property transactions for a flat fee, a service recently started by Woolworth. As an experimental concession in one of its stores, where a local estate agent will sell a house for a flat-rate £75. Debenham's chairman, Mr Bob Thornton, said this concept was limited compared with Debenhams' plans.

He thought it might be possible to provide a guarantee for buyers using the services of Debenhams, which will computerize data matching buyers and sellers.

Debenhams also plans to offer mortgage advice as a separate property service. The Halifax Building Society already as two agencies within Debenhams stores but Mr Thornton said his service would provide only advice and not mortgages.

Trials for both schemes will start in four stores within two months and if successful will be expanded to take a much bigger slice of the annual £50 billion a year house selling market. Debenhams has 68 department stores which could offer the new service.

Debenhams sees its move into property as a logical extension of its growing financial services through its Welbeck Finance business.

Debenhams selling expertise was greater than the average estate agent, Mr Thornton believed, and would use computer services more efficiently than the limited schemes produced so far.

● More than 200 solicitors are to set up their own building society, despite objections from a Law Society working party.

The scheme is, however, supported by a second working party, which sees the move into estate agency as the best way to combat the likely loss of the profession's monopoly on conveyancing.

The scheme, says the second working party, could be the profession's best chance to avoid "A serious and irreversible loss of income."

Tempus, page 20

Montego stoppage fuels fear of autumn clash at Austin Rover

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Production of Austin Rover's new Montego saloon at Cowley was halted last night by the latest in a series of unofficial strikes. There is growing concern within the company that its commercial success may be fostering increased militancy on the shop floor.

The Montego walkout came only hours after the ending of a week-long strike at Longbridge which cost output of 6,000 Metros worth £25m at showroom prices and threatened the impending launch of a new small Rover. The new flare-up began when 40 men employed on the Montego final trim and assembly line ignored the advice of the plant committee and stopped work in protest at reduced bonus earnings. A further 300 men were laid off.

One man said: "We are fed up working so hard without getting anything to show for it". Despite improvement in productivity, bonuses have fallen short of the £30-a-week ceiling. They are now around £15 to £16, the workers say.

An Austin Rover spokesman said: "The remedy is in the men's own hands. Their unconstitutional action is typical of the sort of thing that has been happening recently and depressing the level of bonus payments, which are based on the efficiency of the plant as a whole."

He said there had been several stoppages at Cowley in recent weeks. None lasted long, but they upset the efficient working of the plant.

Managers are worried that news of the company's recovery from losses of £101m in 1982 to a trading profit of £2m last year and the launch of a vital new model may have provided militants with both the ammunition and the timing for a fresh wave of "bushfire" strikes as a prelude to a serious confrontation in the autumn.

A two-year pay deal involving increases of 5.6 per cent a year expires in November. It follows six years in which the highest annual increase was 6.8 per cent and the lowest 3.8 per cent.

Shop stewards insist that the time is overdue for Austin-Rover to end this austerity and reward employees in keeping with their remarkable increases in productivity. They are making great play of management's own claims that Austin Rover productivity is now on a par with the best in Europe.

Management's answer is that the reward is already being given in the shape of revised bonuses of up to £30 a week.

Miners to ask for sympathy walk-outs

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Sheffield

Miners' leaders are to ask the transport unions to stage sympathy stoppages in support of the nine-week old pit strike.

The request for supportive industrial action is expected to be put to a conference of rail, road and sea unions in London tonight as the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) makes fresh moves to spread the strike to mining areas still working.

Peace feelers by unnamed "media-tors" to arrange negotiation between the National Coal Board and the NUM came to nothing yesterday as the union's national executive adhered to its hardline policy of no talks on pit closures or job losses.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said: "People have been to see us and suggest there may be a possibility of discussions between the coal board and ourselves. We said the same thing to those people that we have said since last October – we will meet the NCB either formally or informally but we will not talk about pit closures.

"We shall be discussing measures to make the dispute more successful. We are convinced we are winning."

The miners have cancelled their annual policymaking conference due to be held in Tenby, Dyfed, in July, and the union's fulltime officials also agreed yesterday to donate their salaries to the NUM leadership fund for the duration of the strike.

These two developments came as that NUM leaders said that the strike will continue for many more weeks. Mr Scargill claimed that coal stocks at power stations were down to 17m tonnes and output had fallen to 300,000 tonnes a week – one seventh of normal production.

Pressure on those areas still working is to be intensified, beginning with a mass rally in Mansfield, heart of the non-striking Nottinghamshire coalfield on Monday.

"It is important to call on our colleagues in Nottinghamshire to support the dispute and bring it to a swift and satisfactory conclusion", Mr Scargill said.

During yesterday's executive meeting, Mr Ray Chadburn, President of the Nottinghamshire miners, said that more than 13,000 of the coalfield's 34,000 pitmen are now out on strike and that the NCB is being compelled to lift coal from stock to maintain deliveries to power stations in the Trent Valley.

National officials of the NUM will also tour the embassies of coal-exporting nations in London paying particular attention to the Poles, whose coal is understood to be coming into Britain at an increased rate. Other nations that may feel the wrath of the NUM are Australia, the USA and South Africa.

The NUM disputes figures produced by the Central Electricity Generating Board and Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, about the margin of coal stocks available for power supply. Mr Scargill claimed that information from a "mole" within the CEGB indicated that their supplies will only last for eight or nine weeks at present consumption levels.

Parliamentary report, page 4.

Steel production cut by effects of pit strike

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The impact of the miners' strike on the nation's steel production is beginning to show in the monthly output statistics, compiled jointly by the British Steel Corporation and the private sector. Last month, average weekly output of 290,900 tonnes was 8.5 per cent down on the March figure.

The April decline reflected production cuts at the BSC's Scunthorpe steel works which have been affected badly by a lack of coal from the strike-bound Yorkshire pits.

The average weekly output for the first four months of the year, at 307,700 tonnes, was 3.8 per cent greater than a year earlier. That indicates the recovery in demand that steelworks were experiencing from some customers, particularly those making such consumer products as cars and white goods.

The figures indicate that steel production could have been significantly higher had it not been for the coal dispute.

Print union protests at choice of inquiry chief

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Leaders of the National Graphical Association have objected to the appointment of Mr Frank Jordan, Chief Constable of Kent, to head an internal inquiry into police behaviour during the *Stockport Messenger* dispute.

The union says the investigation will not be fair because Mr Jordan ordered the arrest of Kent miners at the Dartford tunnel recently on the ground that they could cause a breach of the peace on picket lines.

Mr Bryn Griffiths, the union's president, said: "Clearly he is not going to be as objective as someone who has not been involved in these new sinister methods".

The union made allegations of police violence after clashes last year outside the Warrington print works of the Messenger group owned by Mr Eddie Shah.

A Cheshire police spokesman said: "We have no jurisdiction over the complaints made against us. We have no doubt that the complaints will be dealt with as a separate entity to the dispute involving the National Union of Mineworkers.

Howe sets European unity aim

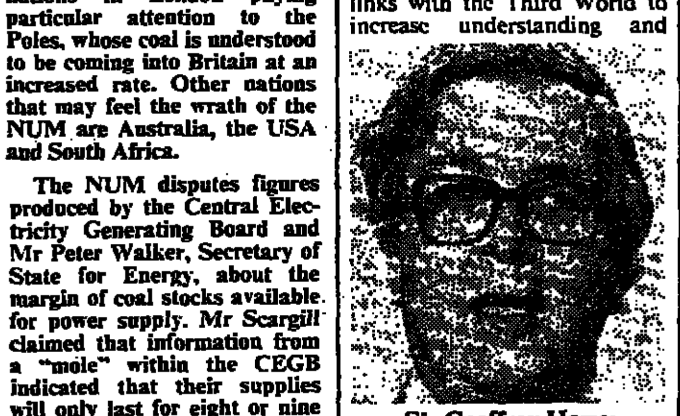
From Ronald Faux, Perth

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, told the Scottish Conservative conference in Perth yesterday that the party would offer the British electors a unique political combination in the European elections on June 14.

The Conservatives, he said, had maintained a consistent commitment to the Community and had made real achievements to create better working relations in Europe. The party offered a vision and sense of purpose which it alone could transform into reality.

"We want to make of the Community not just a force for stability, democracy and prosperity in Europe, but for liberty, peace and civilized relations between nations around the world. We want greater unity in Europe to help strengthen Western security and to open up new avenues of contact between East and West.

"We want Europe to build on its unique historical and trading links with the Third World to increase understanding and cooperation between developed and developing nations.







Sir Geoffrey Howe: "encouraging progress"

"We want to see the community use its vast resources of technical knowhow and skilled manpower to reassert its position as a power house of technological and commercial success. This is the potential of the Community".

Sir Geoffrey said it was that potential which made the long, tough and all too slow negotiations worthwhile. Difficult decisions were postponed and the headlines spoke of crisis and conflict. Yet, he said, significant and encouraging progress had been made.

Agreements had been reached on a fair budget system, putting an end to annual haggles, a stricter control of expenditure including agriculture, limits on the production of food surpluses, new initiatives to reduce barriers within the market and greater emphasis on scientific and technical cooperation.

Referring to East-West relations, Sir Geoffrey said the Government would seek to make plain to Russia that it had no aggressive intentions and sought only security.

Mr Peter Fraser, Solicitor General for Scotland, appealed at the conference for hard evidence against those who dealt in the "evil trade" of drugs trafficking. He said the evidence was desperately needed to combat the tragic misuse of drugs and gave a warning that those prosecuted for trafficking in drugs would be taken to the High Court where they would be exposed to the full range of sentences.

The conference will be addressed by the Prime Minister today.

Jersey cows Emma and Miss join farmers in a solemn procession to protest against EEC milk quota cuts

Farmers protest over doorstep milk threat

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Britain's dairy farmers may be unable to meet the demand for doorstep milk deliveries this summer because of the new EEC-imposed production quotas.

That warning came from Mr George Wheeler, of Droitwich, one of about 50 Worcestershire farmers who demonstrated yesterday in London. He said that last July and August the Milk Marketing Board had come within three per cent of being unable to supply dairies with the milk they needed. With production now cut by nine per cent, there was a real possibility of supplies running out.

After staging a mock funeral along the Embankment and Fleet Street, complete with coffins, placards and two Jersey cows, the farmers delivered petitions at the Ministry of Agriculture and Downing Steet before going on to lobby MPs at the House Commons.

One of the demonstration organizers, Mr Peter Daniell of Upton on Severn, said that unless the Government could be persuaded to change its mind, dairy farmers would be in dire trouble.

Since 1981 he had invested large sums of money in expanding his herd, encouraged by statements from Mr Peter Walker, the former Minister of Agriculture, that he wanted Britain to produce more of its own food. "Now they turn round and tell us they don't want our milk any more."

Mr Peter Pratt from Stourport brought two Jersey cows to London with him. Now, he said, Miss and Emma would both be sent for slaughter, even though Emma had produced more than 6,000 litres during her last milk season and was the daughter of a supreme champion at the Three Counties Show.

He described the situation as heartbreaking.

Officialese is officially cancelled

By Peter Hennessy

Life will get better for Cabinet ministers from next week – officially. There are to be no more jargon-ridden Cabinet papers or minutes to burden the red box of a secretary of state.

Today, by order of Lord Gowrie, Minister of State for the Civil Service, every Cabinet Office civil servant for Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, down, must read, learn and inwardly digest the contents of a booklet entitled *The Word Is. . . Plain English*.

Sir Robert and the 1,700 staff of the Cabinet secretariat, the management and Personnel Office and the Central Statistical Office, will have received a personal copy of "The Word" this morning, are asked by Lord Gowrie to: "Put yourself in the position of your readers.

"Then you will see why your letters, minutes or reports will be more acceptable and more convincing if they are written in plain English." His message ends with the exhortation to "Make plain English the MPO style".

Lord Gowrie, an Anglo-Irishman who taught English literature at Harvard, says: "I used to set my new students an early exercise to describe a bicycle to a visitor from Mars. They soon found that writing plain English wasn't so easy".

Amsterdam return air fare of £49

British Airways announced a £49 London-Amsterdam return fare yesterday, claiming it could herald off-peck reductions througout Europe (Our Transport Editor writes).

The fare, due to start on July 1, is nearly £40 cheaper than the present lowest. It was announced as Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, battled at the Council of Ministers for a cheap fare deal throughout Europe.

The Dutch KLM airline will introduce a similar fare simultaneously.

Customers will buy undated tickets and, initially have seats confirmed the day before flying.

British Airways said the scheme could be extended to all European routes reducing fares almost to the level of rail and sea fares.

Civil servants urged to boycott pay ballot

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Civil Service unions fear the Government is about to ballot 500,000 white-collar staff to win approval for a rejected 3.7 per cent pay offer.

Union leaders argue that the move is based on the Treasury's refusal to guarantee that it will not ballot civil servants. A warning not to cooperate is in a leaflet that the unions have distributed to white-collar civil servants.

Union fears were heightened when they learned that staff in the Ministry of Defence and Department of Health and Social Security were being approached by managers for their addresses.

The Treasury said last night: "With the 1984 pay negotiations continuing there is no suggestion of a possible management ballot against a breakdown of negotiations".

The unions argue that the Government may want a ballot because ministers do not want the issue settled at arbitration.

Next week's conferences of the unions will debate motions demanding industrial action if the Government refuses to make an offer equivalent to the 5 to 7 per cent stated by the Office of Manpower Economics as the average that civil servants need to match private sector settlements.

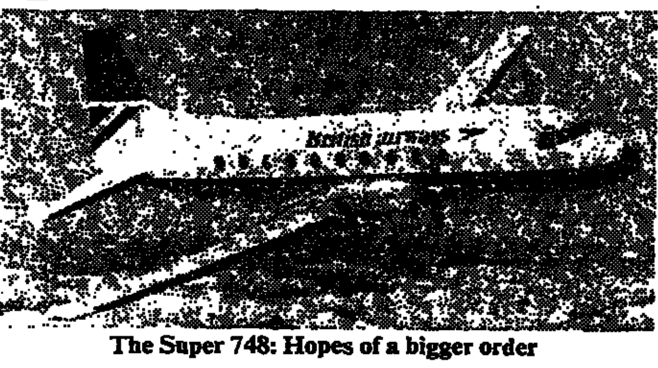
Strikes disrupt schools

Selected lighting strikes by members of the second largest teaching union began in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight yesterday, forcing more than 5,000 children to stay at home.

The National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers is using cost-effective "guerrilla" tactics, pulling out teachers with heavy timetables, or groups of teachers in schools with large NAS/UWT membership.

In Hampshire, 50 members walked out, forcing 2,158 children to be sent home from four schools, although none of the schools closed altogether. Similar action will continue indefinitely in the county, with the union choosing different schools and teachers every day.

On the Isle of Wight, 3,000 children were sent home three schools for half the day after 73 NAS/UWT members were pulled out.



The Super 748: Hopes of a bigger order

Airline buys British

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

British Airways has ordered three British aircraft, after five years of buying American only.

The £9m order for three British Aerospace Super 748 turboprops for the state airline's Scottish island services has raised hopes that it may go on to spend £40m on up to 20 of the new 150-seat European Airbus A320s.

The 748 order was announced in London yesterday by Lord King, chairman of the airline, and Sir Austin Pearce, chairman of British Aerospace.

Lord King recently went to Toulouse in France to visit the Airbus consortium in which British Aerospace is a 20 per cent partner. He said yesterday that he had been "very impressed" and hoped British Airways would be a customer for the A320.

The airline needed a replacement for its Tridents on domestic and European routes. They were too noisy for new regulations due next year and burnt over 50 per cent more fuel than new-technology aircraft like the A320.

Liverpool options kept open

The Government's contingency plans in the event of a collapse of local administration in Liverpool have so far stopped short of lining up a team of commissioners and advisers to be drafted into the city.

The Department of the Environment's line, reiterated by a spokesman yesterday, is that no breakdown is imminent, and the work commissioners would have to do would not become clear until much later in the events that might follow the passage by the city's Labour majority of a budget in which revenue fell short of spending.

It appears that informal soundings begun by Sir George Moseley, permanent secretary, have stopped at two former county chief executives, Sir James Swaffield and Sir John Boynton.

Sir James retired from the Greater London Council earlier this year after a period of rather strained relations with Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the council leader.

Sir John, formerly chief executive of Cheshire, did the same job during elections in Zimbabwe.

Other possible candidates are Mr Paul McQuail, a Department of the Environment under-secretary who has been on secondment as chief executive of the London Borough of Hounslow for the past ten months, and Mr Keith Bridge, a former chief executive with financial experience who is now a consultant for Phillips and Drew, the stockbrokers.

● Mr John Gummer, chairman of the Conservative Party, visiting Merseyside yesterday, warned Liverpool council leaders that their "extremist rhetoric" could keep employers away from the city.

But he added that he was pleased that the council appeared to be allowing time to reach a solution to the budget dispute.

Sale room

Mahler manuscript fetches £143,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A hitherto unknown manuscript of Mahler's First Symphony in D Major, known as *The Titan*, was sold at Sotheby's yesterday for £143,000 (estimate £120,000-£150,000). It was bought by an unnamed overseas private collector who made a telephone bid.

The manuscript dates from between 1896 and 1899 and has 21 pages written by the composer. The rest is written by his amanuensis, F. Weidig, but is extensively annotated and revised by Mahler.

It is the only manuscript surviving of the four-movement version of Mahler's First Symphony and sheds *important* light on the composer's working methods.

The sale also contained *manuscripts of several Mahler* songs, most of which were bought by the Austrian National Library. The most expensive was *Nicht Wiedersehen* of around 1892, at £4,400.

The leading purchaser was Mr F. Koch, who collects Victorian paintings and manuscripts of the same period, many of which are on loan to the Morgan Library in New York.

Mr Kock paid £63,800 (estimate £60,000-£80,000) for the manuscript draft of Wagner's libretto for the Death of Siegfried, the first version of what was to become the fourth and last opera in his Ring cycle. He also spent £30,800 (estimate £20,000-£25,000) on 15 long letters from Marcel Proust to his mother, many concerning the Dreyfus affair.

The sale of manuscript material totalled £606,529 with 13 per cent left unsold. The market for musical manuscripts proved exceptionally strong, with a large number of private collectors prepared to outbid institutions for works of scholarly importance.

In New York on Wednesday Sotheby's held their most successful sale of contemporary art totalling £3.8m and 14 per cent left unsold. A new auction price record was set for American sculpture when Alexander Calder's coloured abstract, Big Crinkly of 1971, made £852,5000 (estimate $500,000- $700,000) or £608,929. The record was previously held by a Remington Wild West bronze entitled The Northern, which sold for $650,000 in 1982.

Apex staff strike hits union

Two hundred and twenty secretarial and administrative staff employed by the association of Scientific, Technical, and Managerial Staff are in official dispute over a pay claim.

The staff are members of another white-collar union, the association of Professional, executive, Clerical and Computer Staff. ASTMS has refused to improve on an offer of a 3.81 per cent salary increase. The staff is asking for an increase of 5.31 per cent, which represents the increase in the cost of living since their last salary settlement.

The dispute has led to a half-day stoppage at the SATMS head office in London. Tomorrow every ASTMS office throughout the country will be affected by a one-day strike. Apex members are also refusing to work overtime or provide cover for absent colleagues.

EEC wine at 7p for Russia

Surplus wine from the EEC "lake" is being sold to the Soviet Union at less than 7p a litre, according to figures issued by Mr John MacGregor, Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Russians are also able to buy flour for 5p a pound, beef and pork at 40p a pound, butter at 53p a pound and sugar at 7p a pound.

Pesticide use to be curbed

The Government is to introduce statutory controls on the sale and use of pesticides "as soon as practicable", Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, told the Commons yesterday.

Concern over possible health risks has been voiced by the agricultural workers' section of the Transport and General Workers' Union and by the environment group Friends of the Earth.

State will boost arts patronage

The Minister for the Arts, Lord Gowrie, announced a new £1m-a-year scheme yesterday, under which the Government will provide matching grants for arts bodies which have won new sponsorship from the private sector.

The scheme will start on October 1 and will be administered by the Association of Business Sponsorship of the Arts. It will be open to any business creating new or additional sponsorship for professional arts bodies, including craft and film.

Boom in 'top job' advertising

Recruitment advertising for managers and senior specialist staff has reached its highest level for 18 years according to a survey by the Hay-MSL management consultancy, which has counted the number of executive jobs advertised in Britain's national newspapers since 1959.

Between January and March this year 10,367 advertisements appeared. That was an increase of 17 per cent compared with the first three months of 1983 and a 61 per cent increase compared with the lowest point of the job market depression in the last quarter of 1980.

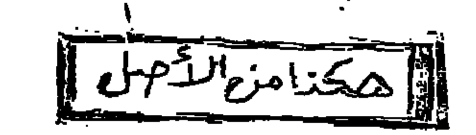
Labour sheriff back in fold

The Sheriff of Nottingham, Mr Dennis Birkinshaw, who resigned from the Labour Party 10 days ago in protest over "extremists", rejoined the Nottingham Council Labour group yesterday.

Hostile and threatening telephone calls had affected his wife's health, he said.

Correction

The £34m the Government is to make available for the arts in the GLC and metropolitan counties areas after 1986 is not "extra", as a headline on April 12 stated. It is a substitution for local authority grants that are to be abolished.



BBC musician contest accused of ruining young players' lives

By Colin Hughes

The rising dominance of music competitions over the lives of young artists is ruining the futures of Britain's most promising young talents and threatening the deveolpment of musical excellence, a report to be published next month says.

A working party of the European String Teachers' Association, which has studied the hundreds of competitions which have burgeoned in recent years, singled out the BBC's popular Young Muician of the Year contest for particular criticism, calling it a "degrading musical equivalent of the Miss World contest".

Miss Anna Markland, winner of the BBC's competition 1982, last night countered the criticism by saying that she had found "nothing but good came of it".

Since winning she has obtained 40 to 50 engagements a season, won a place to start studying for a degree at Worcester College, Oxford University from October.

Many of the semi-finalists and runners-up also received offers, so one person's victory was not necessarily at the expense of others, she said.

Mr Roy Tipping, senior producer of Young Musician of the Year, who has worked on all four competitions since 1978 and sat on the working party as an observer, said he did not believe the association's fears were well founded.

Many young players who had lost in early stages of previous competition had now become young professionals, and he was confident that the 2,500 young people who had taken part in the past six years had found it "positive and rewarding".

The association says that competitions convert musical performance into a gladiatorial sport, cultivating artificial "stars", who pursue a "jet-propelled" series of engagements. Musical sensitivity is sacrificed for physical toughness and inexperienced performers are overwhelmed by the pressure.

"The unceasing search for new sensations greatly increases the number of young musicians who are going to suffer the personal and professional disaster of instant glory followed by total oblivion," the report says.

Brilliant musicians who need time to develop and choose not to concentrate on technical accuracy, which is all competitions can judge, are left by the wayside. Most musicians dislike competing, but "side by side with the mushrooming of competitions has gone the elimination of other avenues into the profession."

The working party, composed of 15 professional musicians and teachers who have judged competitions, accepts that the motives of most competition organizers is to stimulate and encourage young people.

They conclude, however: "Competition in music is not only inappropriate but can also be exceedingly harmful and therefore, ideally, should play no part in musical life."

Scorn is reserved for the BBC competition, where the working party describes the "futile impossibility" of picking a winner out of the four finalists, who are playing different types of music on different instruments.

Independent television's *Fanfare*, the National Festival of Music for Youth, and the Chamber Music Competition for Schools are credited with encouraging participation among performers, but even they incorporate solo combat.

The association prefers contests modelled on the European Broadcasting Union's string quarter competition, or Yehudi Menuhin's Paris violin competition, which award equal prizes to every musician who produces an excellent performance.

Competitions for young musicians should offer prizes such as master classes, summer schools, help to buy instruments and fund study-time.

Music Competitions, a Report – ESTA, Alfred Russell, Baron's Keep, Gliddon Road, London, W14: £1.



Bouncing back: Andrew Hardwick, aged two, in playful mood after his liver transplant at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. Andrew, who had his operation last week, is now getting up to mischief, his parents said yesterday. "It shows he is really on the mend and we just love it", his father, Mr Ron Hardwick, of Shafton, near Barnsley, South Yorkshire, said. Andrew is now so well that doctors have allowed him to eat bacon and eggs.

Private care in NHS offered to cut fees

By Nicholas Timmins

Private Patients Plan, Britain's second largest medical insurer, has revamped its subscription rates to encourage companies to cover their employees for private care in National Health Service hospitals and the less luxurious hospitals.

The change will mean that for the first time employees are likely to be asked to contribute between £55 and £200 towards the cost of their treatment under some schemes.

The move initially affects only PPP's corporate health plan, where the company pays employees' subscriptions. That involves about one-third of the one million people covered by PPP and is the fastest growing sector of the market. But similar packages are on the way next year for PPP's voluntary groups and individual subscribers.

The move is one more attempt by the private medical insurers to control the increasing cost of private treatment

Under the scheme, PPP says it has arranged cost-cutting agreements with most private hospitals. Employers can opt for one of four bands of cover from D, which covers pay beds in most NHS provincial hospitals and the lower priced provincial private hospitals, to A, which covers the most expensive private hospitals in London.

For routine operations, employees will in effect be restricted to the category of hospital chosen for cover. But for 41 "complex" procedures, including open heart surgery, hip transplants, neurosurgery and hysterectomies, employees will still be covered for treatment in any hospital.

Companies will be able to reduce thei premiums by another 15 per cent by stipulating that their employees will pay the first £55 in any one year for treatment in a group D hospital, up to the first £200 in A band hospitals.

Kicking charge policeman 'protecting himself'

From Our Correspondent, Preston

A young Liverpool police constable accused of kicking a demonstrator in the face said yesterday thet he was trying to push the man out of the way to protect himself.

PC Karl Kneale, who denies assault, told a jury at Preston Crown Court that he did not kick Michael O'Brien in the face and said in a statement that he felt he had been "tried and convicted" in a photograph published in most national newspapers.

Mr Michael Wolfe, for the prosecution, has said that PC Kneale was photographed the instant he delivered a deliberate kick to Mr O'Brien during a "Free Dennis Kelly" demonstration outside Walton Prison

PC Kneale, aged 23, of Tyneville Road, Walton, said that, as a coach carrying Kelly, a convicted killer, came out of prison, demonstrators were making "desperate attempts" to throw themselves in its path.

After he had shouted at them to get off the road, Mr O'Brien deliberately punched him

Blow struck by accident, accused PC says

Police Constable Brian Renton, who is accused of blinding Mr Barry Carliell, said yesterday he hit him by accident.

He told Southwark Crown Court that the 6ft 7in businessman struck out while being searched at Islington police station, north London.

PC Renton said: "He pushed me away and as I started to move towards him I saw his fist coming towards me. I insticti-vely took my head out of the way and my right hand shot up.

"I heard a smack and realized I had struck him about the face or head. I had not intended to. The next thing I remember was him putting his hand to his face. I saw blood streaming through his fingers. I felt terrible."

Pc Renton, a former RAF boxer, said he drank six pints at a detective's leaving party but its only effect was making him "a little bit happier".

PC Renton, aged 26, of Highbury, north London, denies causing grievous bodily harm to Mr Carliell, aged 36, of Bloomsbury, central London.

The trial continues today.

Trainer lied for glory of first win

From Our Correspondent
York

A racehorse trainer told a "pack of lies" to the racing authorities for the glory of running his first winner, York Crown Court was told yesterday. Mr Stephen Wiles said that he gave false information to the Jockey Club about a horse he knew as Flockton Grey.

He had made the false statement after being assured by its owners that the horse was a sure winner if it were entered for races. But he has said he had seen the horse only briefly when it was officially named at his yard

It is alleged that the horse was given the false identity to provide a better coup for its owner, Kenneth Richardson, aged 47, and his racing-manager, Colin Mathison, aged 46.

Mr Richardson, of Jubilee House, Hutton, near Driffield, North Humberside; Mr Mathison of Driffield, and Mr Peter Boddy, aged 39, a horse box driver, also f Driffield, deny conspiracy to defraud and to obtain property by deception.

The trial continues today.

Freeze considered on council house building

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

The Government is seriously considering a total freeze on new council house building and new grants for home improvement.

Officials at the Department of the Environment and the Treasury are studying projections which show that councils in England could exceed housing cash limits by £300m in 1984-85 and that total capital overspending could exceed £500m

In response, ministers are likely next month or in early July, to order a complete ban on councils signing new building contracts for schools and roads as well as for housing. No further home improvement grants would be made for a period of at least four months, possibly during the rest of the financial year.

Such a freeze would dismay the building industry and do-it-yourself firms.

The problem, according to returns now being made by councils, is that many local authorities took the Prime Minister at her word when, in October 1982, she berated them for not spending enough on capital projects. Councils approved a series of schemes, many of which are only now coming on stream, pushing up costs in the current financial year above the level the Treasury planned.

In previous years, councils' spending on housing has been buoyed up by unexpectedly large receipts from the sale of council houses to tenants. This year, however, receipts are falling and although they may turn out to be what the Treasury computed (about £1,465m in England in 1984-85) they will be insufficient to pay for the building projects now on councils' books.

A spokesman for the Association of Metropolitan Authorities said yesterday: "Two years ago councils were 'underspending' on housing by at least £1,000m. Now it is time for the Government to return some of that money they saved."

● Nearly a quarter of all tenants in Britain are now in rent arrears and at least £240m is owed in rent to local authorities.



Detail from the Hogarth portrait, valued at £290,000

Six-month export ban on Hogarth painting

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A beautifully painted portrait of a bewigged mathematician in a brown velvet suit by William Hogarth has been denied an export licence by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art.

The licence had been applied for by Baskett and Day, the Bond Street dealers, at a valuation of £290,000. Mr John Baskett is not disclosing the name of his client but it is believed to be the Mellon Centre for British Art at Yale.

The committee met earlier this week and decided to recommend that a licence should be with held for six months. Their recommendations are almost always accepted by the arts minister.

"The committee retired for a very long time", Mr Baskett said yesterday "I began to think a fight had broken out. It turned out that it was the length of time the licence should be with held that they were wrangling over."

There has been a recent tendency to increase the delay period on export licences to give British galleries a better chance to raise the purchase price needed tokeep the item in Britain permanently.

A six-month delay is one of the longest accorded. It drew sharp criticism from Mr Baskett yesterday: "I sympathize with the reason for the delay, but the purchaser is losing interest payments on the very large sum throughout that period." The Treasury should shoulder responsibility for interest payments, he argues.

The portrait depicts William Jones seated on a handsome armchair beside a pillar. It dates from around 1740 and is a brilliant portrayal of character, one of Hogarth's most ambitious single figure portraits.

Jones was a contemporary of Newton and published an edition of his works. He was working on an ambitious introduction to Newtonian philosphy at the time of his death. He bequeathed that to his patron, Lord Macclesfield, in the hope he would complete it.

The portrait was probably commissioned by the second earl, a friend of Hogarth's and remained in the Parker family until it was sent to Christie's last March by the present Viscount Parker. It sold for £280,000 to Baskett and Day.

High-speed Gatwick link opened

Gatwick airport's new, high-speed rail link with Victoria Station was formally opened yesterday. It will start public service on Monday.

Air-conditioned Gatwick Express trains will make the 30-minute journey every 15 minutes, separating airline passengers with their heavy baggage from ordinary commuter's. By providing a greater speed and comfort the service is expected to double rail traffic on the route to eight million over the next decade.

Two appear on terror charges

Two Northern Ireland men appeared before Lambeth Magistrates court, London, yesterday, on murder, explosives and firearms charges.

Thomas Quigley, aged 28, who faces 10 charges, including murder, attempted murder and causing explosions, and Paul Kavanagh, aged 28, who faces two charges of causing explosions, three of possessing friearms and one of possessing explosives, were remanded in custody until May 17.

Jack Nicholson wins libel case

Jack Nicholson, the Academy Award winning actor, won substantial libel damages in the High Court yesterday against the *Sun* newspaper, which had alleged that he had been arrested for drug offences.

The newspaper acknowledged that the American actor had never been arrested for any drug offence and offered an unqualified apology. It agreed to pay undisclosed damages and Mr Nicholson's costs.

£10,089 an acre for farmland

The price of agricultural land in Britain has reached a record level with the sale of 30.7 acres on the Lincolnshire coast for £310,000, an average of £10,089 per acre.

The land was part of the 310-acre Hall Farm and Country House at Wrangle, near Boston.

PARLIAMENT May 10 1984

Thatcher 'utterly condemns' picket line violence

COAL DISPUTE

The picket line violence between *striking miners and police at* Ravenscraig and Hunterston was "totally and utterly condemmned" by Mrs Margaret Thathcer, the Prime Minister, during exchanges in the Commons on the coal strike.

She said those who practisd such violence to further industrial ends *should cease and she congratulated* the police for the way they carried out their duties to enable those miners who wished to work, to do so.

Mr Tony Benn told the Prime Minister that she would "never, never, never" starve the miners *back into accepting a programme of* mass pit closures.

Mr Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale, C) began the exchanges when he said: Will the Prime Minister, at this critical time in the coal industry dispute, reiterate her confidence and com*mitment to the long-term future of* the coal industry? Would she agree it is customers, not subsidies, that will guarnatee success?

Mrs Thatcher: He is right. This Government wishes to see a prosperous coal industry for the future. Top that end, it believes that *the pay offer which has been made* will amount to wages 25 per cent above the average industrial wage, that the excellent record of investment amounting to £2m a day in good, new coal mines and the very good voluntary redundancy payments are the best ever offered, and *offer very good prospects for* the future of the coal industry if people will go to work and cut coal to meet the orders which have recently bee obtained.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party: Is the Prime Minister troubled by the growing violence at Ravenscraig and Hunterston between pickets and police and also by the warning of the British Steel chairman about the long-term threat to the steel industry?

If the disruption goes on, does she accept ministers do have a *responsibility in this deteriorating* climate to try to bring the parties together rather than act as idle spectators in a tug of war in which the British economy is the rope?

Mrs Thatcher: I agree we must totally and utterly condemn violence and its use to further industrial ends. We hope it will be reduced. We must also congratulate the police for the way in which they have carried out their duties in seeing that those who wish to get to their place of work, can do so.

The way ahead is to condemn violence and to see that those who are practising it cease to practise it.

Mr Kenneth Carlisle (Lincoln, C): Applications by industry for the coal conversion scheme have fallen from some 20 a month before the troubles to just three a month now. This is *another example where*, if we are to have a coal industry with a secure future, it is essential markets be first won, and then secured?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes. The Government made available subsidies for industries who wished to turn to coal as a means of producing energy which they require. Obviously, industries who turn over to coal must have a guarantee of security of supply otherwise they will not make the change.

ICI has deferred a decision on whether to turn over to coal, until the end of the strike. Should they *agree to turn over to coal that would* mean another thousand jobs in Durham, just exactly where they are needed: another example of where there is an order waiting to be picked up.

Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab): When will the Prime Minister *realize she will never, never, never* starve the miners back (Loud Conservative protests) into accepting a programme of mass pit closures that will deny the nation the coal which it needs for the future prosperity of our industry?

Mrs Thatcher: The Labour Government during its 11 years closed 300 pits: the Conservative Government closed 92. Is he disowning previous Labour Govermments?

Many miners are fortunately exercising their right to go to work and are producing coal. Those who *are not are losing something like* £220m in wages.

Dormand: Does her prayer still guide her?

Mr Jack Dormand (Easington, Lab) asked the Prime Minister to confirm that the line in the wellknown prayer she had recited to the nation in 1979: "Grant that I may seek to understand, rather than to be understood" still guided her in her duties.

If so (he said) will she intervene in the miners' dispute, as the only possible way of breaking the deadlock and cease to play the role of Pontius Pilate by washing her hands of the dispute? Is that not the way to understand?

Mrs Thatcher: I seek both to understand and to be understood and I have no difficulty in either. The way to end the dispute is to take advantage of consultation procedures which already exist and which have been attended by some miners' leaders.

● During business questions later, Labour MPs unsuccessfully asked **Mr John Biffen**, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the Commons, for a debate next week on the coal dispute. Mr Biffen said he had not provided for a debate in the business he had announced but that there was an Opposition day available between now and the recess.

Mr Benn said coal stocks had fallen to dangerous levels and there was serious *hardship for miners* and their wives fighting to maintain pits.

Mr Biffen said the Government's handling of the dispute had been admirable and had avoided the highly charged political comment which had characterized Mr Benn's remarks.

Mr Richard Hickmet (Glanford and Scunthorpe, C) said Labour MPs were not making a serious request for a debate on the coal industry because that would oblige Mr Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, to indicate if he supported the *miners' efforts to starve the* steelworkers into submission.

Economic summit to discuss US deficit

INTEREST RATES

The prospect of further reductions in the United States budget deficit *may well be raised at the London* economic summit next month, **Mr Nigel Lawson**, Chancellor of the Exchequer, indicated during Treasury questions.

He told MPs that there had already been a number of discussions with the US administration *about the need to reduce the deficit* and the effect of American interest rates on base rates in Britain.

There is (he said) some sign of a welcome change in the attitude of the American Government towards their deficit.

They have now decided to make what they call a down payment of $150,000m reduction in the deficit over three years.

Their description of it as a down payment leads to the inference that there are further reductions yet to come. That is something which may well be discussed at the economic summit next month.

The Chancellor was responding to **Mr Timothy Eggar** (Enfield North, C), who had asked what action he was going to take in conjunction with other European countries to try to persuade the US to reduce their deficit.

Earlier, when asked about a target for the exchange rate, **Mr Lawson** said: We cannot be wholly immune from what is happening to interest rates in the United States if we are concerned to maintain a proper control of monetary conditions.



Eggar: What action will Chancellor take?

Although we do not have any target for the exchange rate, we do take it into account in pursuing our monetary policy.

Dr Oonagh McDonald, an opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Thurrock): Industrialists do not share his complacency about the rise in interest rates. Yesterday the director general of the Confederation of British Industry said the rise in interest rates could shatter the fragile recovery, as he described it, which is taking place this year.

When is *Mr Lawson going to* accept responsibility for the control of this country's economy? When is he going to start controlling interest rates himself so that the economy may recover, instead of blaming America?

Mr Lawson: I would be interested to know how Dr McDonald imagines she could precisely control interest rates and what she thinks the consequences would be. A more considered verdict on British industry was contained in the CBI April survey which showed the most widespread improvements in manufacturing output for seven years.

Finding the money to increase nurses' pay

REVIEW BODIES

Before it makes an announcement about nurses' pay and the pay of others covered by special review bodies, including those on top salaries in the public sector, the Government wants to see where the resourses to meet the awards are to come from, **Mrs Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said during questions in the Commoms.

Mr Kinnock, Leader of the opposition, said that nurses were worth all they were paid and asked if Mrs Thatcher was suggesting that their pay was dependent in any way on the allocations she chose to make to people on top salaries. The Prime Minister told him he was trying to *put words in her mouth.*

Mr Kinnock opened the subject by pointing out that the Government had had the report since early April.

Why is she making the nurses wait several more weeks (he asked) before letting them know if she will honour the review body's recommendation?

Mrs Thatcher: The amount of time taken to decide on the review body reports is in keeping with what happened previously. We want to look at them all together.

Those who make the reports do not have the duty of the Government, to look at the amount recommended and then find the money for it.

Mr Kinnock: That still does not explain why it will be two months or even more between the time of submission of the report and when *the Prime Minister says she may* make the announcement.

The nurses deserve a higher pay rise, well above the current rate of inflation, and she has no plausible reason whatever for denying it or for continuing to delay.

Why will she not make the announcement that she will honour the report and the figure in it?

Mrs Thatcher: If he had listened, I gave him a reply. We have the report of the top salaries and special review bodies.

We should like to make certain where the money is coming from to meet the recommendations. That is a sound financial principle.

Since this Government came to office, nurses' pay has increased by more than 80 per cent which is ahead of earnings and prices, and nurses have the benefit from a reduced working week. So we have a *good record.*

Mr Kinnock: Nurses are worth everything they get. Is she suggesting that nurses' pay is dependent in any way on allocations she chooses to make to people on higher salaries? If she is, things are worse than we thought.

It is time she made clear that there are no other considerations about top salaries which can inhibit a pay settlement deserved by the nurses.

Mrs Thatcher: He is attempting to put words into my mouth. He will *not succeed. I was merely suggesting* that we should look at all the review bodies together and before we make an announcement, to see where the resources are coming from.

I know that any Labour Government would not, but would *pay it and then go back to the IMF.* We are still paying back money to them.

Fall to 4% predicted by Lawson

INFLATION

Retail price inflation would fall to around 4 per cent this time next year, latest forecasts suggested, **Mr Nigel Lawson**, Chancellor of the Exchequer, indicated during questions in the Commons. He added that there needed to be considerable constraints on pay increases.

Mr Kenneth Carlisle (Lincoln, C), who had asked for the latest forecast, said inflation must be kept low and stable to encourage investment and provide jobs. The 8 per cent rise in the cost of materials could damage the fight against rising prices.

Mr Lawson said an increase in input prices was a reflection in the rise in the value of the dollar which meant oil and other commodities cost more. But against that was the fact that unit labour costs were rising by *a very, very small amount now.*

There needs to be considerable constraints on pay increases (he added) because certain of our major competitors have seen unit labout costs fall.

Mr Nigel Forman (Carshalton and Wallington, C): Does he agree it is vital for public sector pay constraints to continue, particularly in central and local government?

Mr Lawson: The Government is concerned to keep a firm grip on public expenditure.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab) said *a massive cut in the cost of* electricity would help industry.

Mr Lawson: Subsidies are not the route for bringing down inflation. But it is important to have low cost energy, in particular, low cost coal.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP): In view of the importance on interest rates, will no the increase be a bitter blow to the strategy the Government is following, particularly since he had forecast higher interest rates yet to come? Will this not lead to higher prices and lower investment?

Mr Lawson: Ihave made no forecasts about higher interest rates to come. The rise is not a bitter blow; there will always be fluctuations, particularly with what is happening in America.

A recent CBI forecast estimated a 7 per cent increase in manufacturing *investment this year.*

Home erxtension work was unlikely to go to the black economy, **Mr Barney Hayhoe**, Minister of State, Treasury, predicted at question time in the Commons. He told **Mr Michael Brown** (Brigg and Cleethorpes, C), who asked what estimate the Chancellor had made of the consequences of his decision to bring the construction of House extensions within the scope of VAT on the level of the black economy, that detailed estimates could not be made.

Big majorities for Government during all-night sitting

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The House of Commons sat until nearly 5.30 this morning on the committee stage of the Local Government (Interim Provsions) Bill. The Bill provides for the abolition of the elections next year to the Greater London Council and the other six metropolitan councils prior to their abolition. Shortly before 5 am the committee stage was adjourned until later today.

An Opposition amendment to provide for an inquiry before the elections were cancelled was rejected by 319 votes to 185 – Government majority, 135.

During the night **Mr Alexander Carlile** (Montgomery, L) moved an amendment to delete a subsection of the clause governing the beginning and ending of the interim provisions giving the Secretary of State power to modify the Local *Government Act 1972 or the* Representation of the People Act 1983, if he thought it necessary, or expedient.

Mr Carlile said the Government was taking immense new constitutional powers never given before in modern times in any respectable democracy. It gave the Secretary of State the authority of a Caesar but the power to knife the constitution with the thrust of a Brutus.

Mr David Clark, an Opposition spokesman on the environment (South Shields, Lab), said these powers should at least be restricted to certain aspects of these Acts.

Mr William Waldegrave, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said it would be wrong to delete this subsection because it was the means by which elections could be restored in the event of abolition *failing after 1986.*

The amendment was rejected by 289 votes to 142 votes – Government majority, 147.

The clause was approved by 286 votes to 143 votes – Government majority, 143.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L) moved the first of a series of amendments to provide for direct elections to the Inner London Education Authority next year and thus providing, he said, continuity of service, clarity of purpose and a far better education service than if, as the Government proposed, an appointed body took over for one year.

He said that without these amendments there would be a period, albeit only one year, when for the first time since 1870 inner London would not have a directly elected education authority.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said the amendment did not represent an overwhelming improvement on the admittedley imperfect interim arrangements proposed by the Government.

The amendment was rejected by 270 votes to 124 votes – Government majority, 146.

Mr Frederick Silvester (Manchester, Withington, C) moved an amendment to prolong the term of office of metropolitan county and GLC councillors until the end of the 11-month interim period in April 1986.

He said the Government would not be abolishing these councils if they were controlled by Conservatives.

The metropolitan counties would remain Labour controlled and there was no reason to suppose the people appointed by the Labour district councils would be any less troublesome. The Labour left was just as capable of creating disruption and chaos through the new system as through the old one.

The real purpose of the Bill was to change the political completion of the GLC and that was the greatest *compliment they could pay to Ken* Livingstone. It was an abandonment of Conservative standards.

Mr Francis Pym (South-East Cambridgeshire, C) said he was opposed to the whole concept of the Bill. It was an embarrassing waste of *parliamentary time.*

This amendment called for a stay of execution until April 1986 and its purpose was to keep the present councillors in office for a further 11 months to give the Government a breathing space to prepare and develop its proposals before introducing *its main Bill.*

The fact that the political completion of some councils would change as a result of the Government's proposals was totally unacceptable and broke the well-accepted rules of Britain's constitutional practice.

The Bill contained extraordinarily undemocratic proposals. The only legitimate way to remove left-wing councils was through the ballot box.

This amendment would make the main Bill less unacceptable.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said this was a paving Bill and if the main Bill fell the status quo would be *restored and the elections* reinstated. So it did not make the slightest difference whether they moved to nominated councils or whether the existing councillors were allowed to run on.

He firmly refuted any suggestion that these proposals were being made in order to secure a change of political complexion in control of any of the councils.

The amendment was rejected by 260 votes to 118 votes – Government majority, 142.

Most odious of accusations

No provision had caused more offence or greater reaction than the one which if implemented would *change the political control of the* Greater London Council, **Dr John Cunningham**, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, said when the committee stage of the Local Government (Interim Provisions) Bill was resumed in the Commons. The Opposition did not accept that it should be possible or a consequence of an Act of Parliament that democratically elected political control of an authority should be changed.

Moving an amendment, which was considered with a number of *related amendments, to delete the* provision he said this issue was widely recognized not only in Parliament but outside the House as one on which the Government had little if any real support. The Government had laid itself wide open to accusations of gerrymandering the situation in the capital. Fiddling the outcome of elections was perhaps one of the most odious of all political accusations.

The amendment was rejected by 271 votes to 168 – Government majority, 103.

Inquiry into Libyan siege ruled out

PM'S QUESTIONS

The Prime Minister refused both a request for an inquiry into the activities of diplomats at the Libyan People's Bureau and a request that she should cancel her meeting with the Prime Minister of South Africa in view of the unacceptable activities of South African diplomats in Britain.

The requests came at question time from **Mr Max Madden** (Bradford West, Lab) who asked for confirmation that police experts had now identified one of the guns found at the bureau as the weapon used in the killing of a Libyan in the United Kingdom some time ago.

In those circumstances (he said) will she establish an independent inquiry into the activities of diplomats at the bureau and into the circumstances which led to the siege?

In that context, will she cancel her meeting with the Prime Minister of South Africa in protest at the unacceptable activities of South African diplomats and because the vast majority of the people of this country are repelled by apartheid?

Mrs Thatcher: The answer is no in each case.

Soviet move over Olympics regretted

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said that she hoped the Soviet Olympic Committee was reconsidering its apparent decision not to participate in the Olympics.

She was replying to **Mr Tony** *Banks (Newham, North-West, Lab)* who mentioned the decision of the Soviet Union, Algeria and Bulgaria not to take part and said that Mrs Thatcher had set a bad example by her botched-up attempt to prevent British teams going to Moscow in 1980.

He also asked her to support the establishment of a permanent site in Greece, with United Nations status.

Mrs Thatcher replied that the position in 1980 had been different. That had been soon after the Soviet Union action in Afghanistan, which *country is still occupied.* That was totally different to the conditions in which the Olympics were being held in Los Angeles.

Apologies to Belgium for violence

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, apologised to the Belgian authorities for the violence in Brussels last night involving supporters of Tottenham Hotspur FC who had attended a match there.

She said: We are deeply concerned about the violence in Brussels last night and totally and utterly condemn it.

There have been a number of cases of violence, not in the stadium, but before and after the match. A special committee was set up after previous examples of violence in Luxembourg and it will report shortly. I condemn the violence which was a disgrace to Britain and we deeply apologise for it.

Mr John Carlisle (Luton North, C) had urged her to send a message of apology to the Belgian government and also to Belgian magistrates saying that when these thugs came before them they should show no mercy and if necessary keep them in custody for yet another football season, which would please the British people.

Steady growth and low inflation

THE ECONOMY

The combination of steady growth and low inflation Britain was currently enjoying had not been *seen since the 1960s. Mr Nigel* **Lawson**, Chancellor of the Exzchequer, said during Commons exchanges on the economy.

The statement drew from **Mr James Callaghan** who, to laughter, thanked Mr Lawson for the tribute to his Chancellorship in the 1960s when there was steady growth, high investment and a much higher sterling rate than today.

At that time (said Mr Callaghan) unemployment was also at record low levels. Mr Lawson cannot take credit for his Chancellorship until he can do something about the disastrous figure of unemployment at present.

Mr Lawson: I entirely agree that unemployment is appallingly high. Mr Callaghan is a fair man and he knows full well that the rise in unemployment over the past 20 years has occurred throughout the world and not simply in this country.

There are signs of improvement in the labour market. Between *March and September* last year, the latest figures available, the numbers of those in work in this country increased by some 200,000.

Mr Jack Dormand (Easington, Lab): The economy is already being affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry and there is likely to be a rapid deterioration before long because of that.

In such circumstances it would be financially and economically advantageous to at least consider meeting the present demands of the miners, particularly as the other coal producing countries in the EEC give greater subsidies. *Would* Mr Lawson make the strongest possible representations to the Prime Minister on this aspect of the economy?

Mr Lawson: The effects of dispute on the economy are slight indeed, and will entinue to be because of the substantial stocks of coal there are at power stations.

As for the treatment of the miners by the National Coal Board, that has *been very fair indeed*, some would say even generous, whether one looks at the levels of pay, which are high, and the increase offered is generous, or at the redundancy terms, which are extremely generous.

There is no coal industry *in* Europe which is investing anything like as much as we are. That is important for the future. At the same time, as there has to be investment for the future there has inevitably to be closure of ageing and grossly uneconomic pits.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on policing in London.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday and Tuesday: Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, report stage.
Wednesday: Police and Criminal Justice Bill, third reading. Debate on Hongkong.
Thursday: Ordnance Factories and Military Services Bill, report stage. Motion for spring adjournment.
Friday: Animal Health and Welfare Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords next week will be:

Monday: London Regional Transport Bill, committee, first day. Video recordings Bill, committee, third day.
Tuesday: Trade Union Bill, second reading.
Wednesday: Debates on long-term energy strategy and on the Vienna Convention on diplomatic immunity.
Thursday: London Regional Transport Bill, committee, second day.
Friday: Video Recordings Bill, committee, fourth day.

Minister defends company car tax

Salesmen and managers felt widespread resentment at the special tax treatment for company cars which were the tools of their trade, especially when coal for miners went untaxed, **Mr Hal Miller** (Bromsgrove, C) said during questions in the Commons. He suggested either a staged tax relief on the number of miles covered for business or setting an upper limit on the tax.

Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said he had received 40 letters and representations on this issue. Advertising a car in a job advertisement was obviously seen as an attractive benefit.

We are seeking (he said) to move to realistic levels for all benefits

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington *North, Lab) asked if the Chancellor* would meet a delegation from ASTMS to discuss the tax on company cars.

Mr Moore said if Mr Lawson was approached he would always consider such representations.

Defeat over right to buy on university land

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government suffered a defeat in the House of Lords when an amendment denying tenants of housing associations leasing land from universities the right to buy the freehold of their homes, was carried by 128 votes to 99 – majority 29, during consideration of Commons amendments to the Housing and Building Control Bill.

But a Government proposal allowing such tenants the right to purchase long leases to their homes was agreed to.

The Earl of Selkirk (C), moving the amendmnt, said *a number of* universities had leased land for which they had no immediate use to housing associations. What would be the situation if tenants of these associations were allowed to buy the freehold when the universities decided they needed the land to extend their premises?

Such a situation would be unsatisfactory to both the potential purchaser of the freehold and the housing association, as there would be no security of tenure or freehold which was against the object of the Bill.

If universities were allowed to *retain the freehold*, everyone would know where they stood. That would be of benefit to all. Cambridge had been ordering its own affairs for 700 years and would know what was best for its own future.

Lord Bellwin, Minister for Local Government, said having imposed a covenant, a university could ask the Secretary of State to act as agents to acquire the freehold compulsorily if they needed the land at any time for development. It was a unique compulsory purchase power available to a private body which meant that any fears about the leasing of land by academic bodies were unfounded.

Not only did the provisions exist, they were being actively pursued by the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The amendment would discriminate against a small group of tenants for unsustainable reasons.

● The Government was defeated again, by one vote, when peers insisted on denying the right to buy to elderly people living in accommodation specially adapted to make it suitable for occupation by persons of pensionable age. The amendment was carried 101 to 100 – majority one.

Lady Birk (Lab) said that such housing was in very short supply and where there was not enough to go round it would be wrong to sell what little there was.

It was not only a right but a duty *of the Government* to make sure that the people who were really in need of such accommodation had the opportunity to use it.

To deny them that right by selling off specially adapted housing, would be to discriminate against them.

Lord Bellwin said the amendment would be taking away a right that already existed and was not restoring the position to what it was before the Bill was introduced.

The Government had added a safeguard that local authorities could *buy back the houses if* they were sold within 21 years.

It would be wrong to worsen the situation of sitting tenants, which would be the effect of the amendment.

Publishers act to curb illegal photocopying by universities

By Kenneth Gosling

The publishing industry has launched a campaign against the photocopying by commercial and academic institutions of books and periodicals that is costing publishers and authors £25m a year.

If the practice continues, it could seriously affect the viability of publishing to the extent that higher prices would become inevitable, according to Mr Clive Bradley, chief executive of the Publishers Association.

He said: "Photocopying is clearly an essential means of making information available and we are not trying to be luddite at all: we are after the people who are trying to avoid buying our products".

Mr Bradley's remarks came after an announcement by the association that after allegations of unauthorized photocopying in departments of Manchester University of "substantial" quantities of copyright materials, comprehensive undertakings have been given by the university, including the exhibition of warning notices and the handing over of infringing materials.

It is understood to be one of a number of universities against which legal action would have been taken had they not given undertakings. The University of Kent at Canterbury and Warwick University have been approached by the association.

The publishers are pursuing an action in the High Court over photocopying by Manchester schools. A recent development was the collection from 170 schools in the area of 245,000 photocopied pages.

Mr Bradley said the aim was to reach agreements for licences for photocopying as recommended by the Whitford report on copyright law reform in 1977. "But we have not been very successful", he said. "We feel we have been subjected to a very time-consuming process of negotiation."

There had been one breakthrough, however.

In the next few weeks, local education authorities in England and Scotland will be entering into an experimental scheme with the association covering the next academic year.

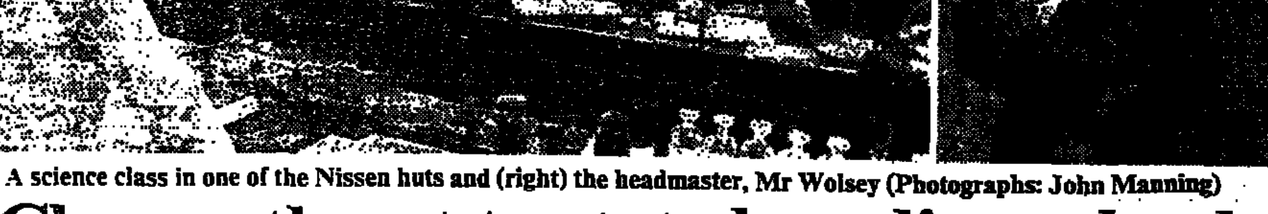
The Inner London Education Authority has posted warnings in every institution it administers, including 1,100 schools, about the perils of unauthorized copying. One education authority in the Midlands was fined £1,300 for an infringement of the Copyright Act, 1956.

Copying is not confined to book and periodical publishers. Mr Peter Dadswell, secretary of the Music Publishers' Association, estimates that copying of sheet music, records and videos costs the industry £350m a year.

"Music is particularly vulnerable to copying. The biggest problem is choral material – the choirmaster who buys one copy of a work and photocopies 30 more. It is always worse at *Christmas when carols are in* demand."

Copying of videos is a familiar and growing problem for the British Videogram Association. Mr Norman Abbott, chief executive, said copying in the home meant losses "running into millions". The only answer was to impose a levy of at least £1 on a three-hour tape which would be a form of licence. Home copying for non-commercial purposes is technically illegal but prosecutions would be impractical.





A science class in one of the Nissen huts and (right) the headmaster, Mr Wolsey (Photographs: John Manning)

Closure threat to state boarding school

By Colin Hughes

Wymondham College, one of Britain's largest maintained boarding schools and the only one in Norfolk, faces closure or conversion into a sixth form college.

The school, which has 670 boarders out of a total 1,100 pupils, has a reputation for academic excellence. Last year, its sixth formers achieved an A-Level pass rate of 80 per cent and it is one of the few state schools to win four of five Oxbridge scholarships every year.

However, it costs £2m a year to run more than twice the cost of an 1,800 pupil comprehensive in Norfolk – and the Conservative-controlled county council says it can no longer afford the luxury. Another £1.5m is needed to replace buildings.

Councillors say that only 25 children each year cannot do without a boarding place and they can be more cheaply accommodated at private schools with the authority paying fees.

The college was founded in 1951 and took over a former United States base. Three-quarters of the classes are held in rundown Nissan huts

The county education committee decides its fate in July. Mrs Gillian Sheperd, the committee chairman, says that the only real options are complete closure or conversion into a sixth-form college.

"We are aware that we are dealing with a very special, if not unique place.

She emphasized that the college's shining academic record was based on a selective policy. Although it became comprehensive in 1981, the headmaster, Mr Ronald Wolsey, can still turn away any applicant he believes will not fit in.

Mr Wolsey is hoping to persuade the county council to retain the school and introduce fee-paying boarders from neighbouring counties to cover costs.

Karpov set to win in final round

By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent

Of the six adjourned games played yesterday, a rest day in the Phillips & Drew GLC Kings Tournament at County Hall, London, the most striking result was Karpov's first loss in the tournament to the Philippine grandmaster Eugenio Torre. This had been adjourned from the eighth round when the world champion resigned

His play has been so powerful throughout the tournament that he remains in the lead by a full point and needs only a draw in the last round today to make sure of first prize.

Results of the adjourned games: Round 8: Torre ½ Seirawam ½; round 9: Mestel ½ Torre ½; round 10: Timman ½ Miles ½; round 11: Torre 1 Karpov 0; Seirawan 0 Andersson 1; round 12: Andersson ½ Mestel ½.

Round 12 scores: Karpov 8½ Chandler and Polugaivsky 7½, Timman 7, Seirawan 6½, Korchnoy, Ribli and Vaghnian 6, Miles 5½, Andersson and Speelman 5, Mestel, Nunn and Torre 4½.

Unemployment increasing among Oxford arts graduates

By Colin Hughes

More Oxford University arts graduates are leaving college to join the dole queue or take short-term jobs but prospects for science graduates are improving, a report by the university's Appointments Committee reveals.

The rate of unemployment among Oxford leavers stayed steady at 6.3 per cent last year, about half the national average. But the split between arts and science students widened.

Of arts and humanities students leaving last year 10.1 per cent of men and 12.8 per cent of women were unemployed or entered short-term jobs, compared with 9.8 per cent for men and 10.3 per cent for women the year before.

Science students fared better. Of men who graduated last year 6.4 per cent were unemployed or in short-term work, compared with 7.5 per cent the year before, and the same figure for women fell from 6.3 per cent of 1982 leavers to 5.8 per cent of last year's.

The committee says that Oxford students, like those from other universities, are now having to cast their net over a wider range of prospective employers, apply later, accept lower positons and consider vocational training before applying for full-time posts.

One of the sharpest and most surprising changes is in the law. Numbers choosing the uncertain future of training for the Bar rose to 44 last year and only 29 of those read law at college.

Among those choosing to become solicitors the reverse was true. Last year 136 students bagan solicitor training, of which 35 had not read law at college, a fall of 50 per cent on the non-lawyers who enterd the profession the previous year.

The committee says that some art graduates are being deterred by rising Law Society examination standards and the difficulty of obtaining local authority grants for the first two years.

For the first time, the committee reports large numbers of Oxford graduates failing to find places in teacher training and the numbers succeeding has fallen steadily over the past four years from 8.8 per cent to 7 per cent of first degree students. The national average is above 8 per cent.

Of the total 2,748 who graduated last year, 58 went to work for central government, including 30 in the armed services. Eight of the 24 graduates accepted by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office last year were from Oxford.

Another striking shift among Oxford students is in numbers entering commerce and industry. Last year, 10.8 pr cent went into industry, against 13.1 five years ago. Oxford's proportion is two-thirds the national average entering industry, because it is primarily an arts and humanities university.

Oxford still supplies the City. Of 331 graduates entering commerce last year, 25 became stockbrokers. Numbers becoming bankers, a traditional Oxford preserve, fell from 128 in 1982 to 106 last year.

Fred Astaire celebrates 85 happy years

Hollywood (AFP) – Fred Astaire, acclaimed as the world's greatest dancer by fellow artists, yesterday celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday with his wife in their Beverly Hills luxury villa.

"I never really thought about my age until I reached 80. Then everybody made a big thing of it, and people were saying 'Oh, he's one of those octagenarians....' Well, I didn't feel any different then and I don't now", he told friends. "My health is good, I'm happy and I'm doing what I want to do, so what's all the fuss about?"

Fred Astaire is one of Hollywood's more discreet stars, refusing to accept American university honorary degrees or take part in television programmes dedicated to his career. But two years ago, after hesitating for a long time, he agreed to be honoured by the American Film Institute.

Producers still come to him with offers. He made his last film *Ghost Story* only two years ago. But one thing is certain; he will never tap dance professionally again.

The man described by the Russian choreographer Georges Balanchine, and by Rudolph Nureyev, as the world's greatest dancer says today, apparently without regret: "It is a part of my career which is over. I am an actor now."

Born Frederick Austerlitz on May 10, 1899 in Omaha, Nebraska, he was seven years old when he started dancing

Fred Astaire was attracted by Hollywood, and went there for a test. The verdict has become film history: "... Can't act. Slightly bald. Can dance a little."

Nevertheless, he managed to get a small part in 1933 in *Dancing Lady*, starring Joan Crawford. The same year he married Phyllis Potter and shortly afterwards made his first film with an almost unknown dancer, Ginger Rogers.

A long line of films followed which charmed the entire world, including *Roberta, Top Hat, Follow the Fleet, Swing Time, Shall We Dance.*

The Astaire-Rogers partnership broke up in 1939, but he went on from one success to another in musical comedy films with other partners

In all his films he played the part of an elegant dandy, with top hat, evening suit, white gloves and twirling walking stick.

Today Fred Astaire lives with his second wife, a former jockey 45 years younger than her husband, far away from the Hollywood daily showbusiness scene. As he grows older, he is less critical of his films. "I see them on television once in a while, and you know, they are pretty darned good."



Merry dance: Fred Astaire pictured left celebrating his 85th birthday and, right, in his heyday with Ginger Rogers.

Court to investigate Pinochet land deal

Santiago (Reuter) – Chile's appeal court has appointed one of its members to investigate alleged irregularities in the purchase of land for a private house by President Augusto Pinochet.

The case was referred to a plenary session of the appeals court by the Supreme Court, which last week received a petition from prominent opponents of the military government saying that General Pinochet could have broken fraud and conflict of interest laws.

For several days, senior military and government figures have paraded before television cameras offering the President their support and dismissing the charges, while he has assured them that he has done nothing wrong or unethical.

Such attempts to stifle the matter, the first scandal to touch President Pinochet personally after more than 10 years in power, have been thwarted by yesterday's court decision.

The sums involved are comparatively small, but diplomats say that the issue is potentially dangerous for the President because army officers are extremely sensitive about anything which could adversely affect the institution's image.

The most damaging aspect of the case appears to concern plots bought by the Government for road-widening next to his house. Land left over was sold to him through an intermediary at what opposition lawyers alleged was a loss to the state.

Yugoslavs go on trial for criticizing regime

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade

Two of the 28 Belgrade intellectuals who were arrested and subsequently released in a spectacular police raid on a political meeting in a private home last month are to be charged with alleged hostile propaganda after being rearrested on Wednesday night.

Explaining the reason for arresting Mr Miodrag Milic, a freelance film worker, and Mr Dragomir Olujic in whose flat the meeting took place, an official announcement referred to their continuing active participation in "unauthorized political gatherings" and public debate.

The article under which the two men will be charged provides for a sentence of up to 10 years for a so-called verbal political offence. A number of Yugoslav lawyers and intellectuals recently urged the abolition of this offence. Under it verbal criticism is a criminal offence and this has sometimes been interpreted by the authorities to make the slightest critical remark a crime.

Wass attack on Tisdall jailing

By Peter Hennessy

Sir Douglas Wass, former Joint Head of the Home Civil Service, today attacks the jailing of Miss Sarah Tisdall, the Foreign Office clerk sentenced to six months' imprisonment in March under section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, for leaking a confidential minute about the deployment of cruise missiles to a newspaper.

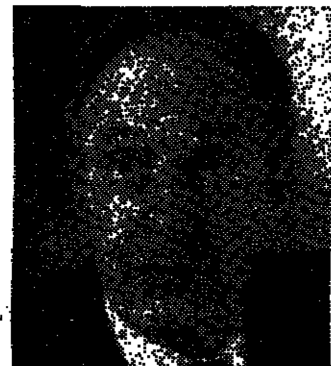
In a book review published in *The Times Educational Supplement*, Sir Douglas writes: "We must be almost alone in the civilized world in invoking the criminal law to stop leaks irrespective of the nature of the injury caused or the intentions of the leaker.

"Applying the criminal law to leaks which are merely embarrasssing is quite unjustified.

Sir Douglas said yesterday: "I would have sacked her summarily. But sending her to jug for six months is absurd".

***In his review*, Sir Douglas says "we must be careful" before denouncing people like Miss Tisdall out of hand. "The deterrent effect of a prosecution must be infinitesimal where the breach of trust by an otherwise loyal person is dictated by conscience**

Sir Douglas calls for a right of public access to official information to be established by statute. He praised the 1984 Campaign for Freedom of Information, to which he is an adviser, for having "leant over backwards to be responsible". As a former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, he says the campaign is too cautious about the need to keep information about the currency secret.



Sir Douglas: 'I would have sacked her summarily'.

Protests over public bird-killing contest

Police and the RSPCA are investigating plans for a public competition in which young people will kill poultry.

The competition instructions read: "Kill and pluck one bird. If a competitor is unable to kill a bird, assistance will be given at a loss of 10 penalty points."

The competition, planned by Bedfordshire Young Farmers at an agricultural rally at Battlesden, near Woburn, on May 19, has sections for under-16s, under-21s and seniors.

Chief Inspector Tony Sheridan, of Biggleswade police, said inquiries would be made. He said: "To break the neck of a bird requires a knack and degree of force."

Mrs Lynn Bardill, Animal Aid, called the competition "absolutely disgusting". Mrs Barbara Barber, of Compassion in World Farming called it barbaric.

However, Mr Chris Hunt, chairman of the rally's organization committed, said entrants would have been trained by ministry-approved teachers. He said: "The killing of a bird is done in a second."

Sarah Keays 'not badgered' by Mirror man

There was a genuine public interest in the possibility that Mr Cecil Parkinson was the father of the baby Miss Sarah Keays was expecting, and two *Daily Mirror* reporters behaved properly and politely when asked her whether this was so, the Press Council said today.

However, the newspaper was not justified in following Miss Keays and a woman friend in two cars through London late at night, the council said.

The council rejected a complaint by Mr D. A. Spark, a solicitor, of The Rotyngs, Rottingdean, Brighton, that Miss Keays was badgered by *Mirror* reporters, but upheld his complaint that she was improperly pursued.

Mr Spark based his complaint on the statement issued by Miss Keays and published in *The Times*. In it she said she was visited at her London home by reporters from the *Daily Mirror* "who demanded to know if it was true that I was pregnant by Mr Parkinson".

Mr Michael Molloy, editor of the *Mirror*, said in a reply to the council that a letter from him published in *The Times* contained a clear denial that the newspaper's car had rammed Miss Keays's car.

Sun distorted replies on video nasty

A report in *The Sun* which quoted a sociology lecturer as saying he would happily show a "video nasty" to his daughter aged nine distorted his replies and misleadingly omitted qualifications he made to answers, the Press Council says today.

The council upheld a complaint by Mr Martin Barker, a lecturer in sociology at Bristol Polytechnic, that the paper distorted replies which he gave when interviewed and omitted his qualifying statements, and that an explanatory statement offered by the newspaper was an inadequate remedy.

After an article by Mr Barker appeared in *New Society* Mr John Kay of *The Sun* telephoned Mr Barker and wrote a report which appeared under the headline "Let kids see nasty TV videos." It began: "A college lecturer switched on a furious row yesterday when he urged parents: 'Let your children watch video nasties'".

Mr Barker said he was asked whether he would let his children watch a video nasty? He had replied he would not refuse but would want to talk to the child.

Reagan's speech on Central America wins back support

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan's strongly-worded broadcast on Central America on Wednesday night appears not only to have succeeded in persuading Congress finally to approve his request for increased aid to El Salvador, but also may have defused Central America as an issue in the US Presidential elections.

The President said the United States had a strategic as well as a moral interest in helping to resist the spread of Soviet – and Cuban-backed communist subversion in Central America. Unless it assisted struggling democracies such as El Salvador, the alternative would be "a communist Central America with additional communist bases on the mainland of this hemisphere, and communist subversion spreading southward and northward."

The President sought to allay widespread fears among the American public about growing US military involvement in the region. The issue was "definitely not about plans to send American troops into combat in Central America", he said.

But he made it clear that his Administration would continue to support Nicaraguan rebels, whom he referred to as "freedom fighters", in their Central Intelligence Agency – financed struggle against the left-wing Sandinista regime in Nicaragua.

The Preside · spoke shortly before the World Court in The Hague called on the United States to end its shpport for the Nicaraguan rebels, known as "contras".

The Sandinistas, he claimed, were carrying out "a communist reign of terror" in their country and were now trying "to export their terror to every other country in the region".

The President's Democratic critics yesterday predicted he would now get most of the money he had been seeking to bolster El Salvador's armed forces in their battle against left-wing insurgents, particularly in view of the apparent victory of Señor José Napoleon Duarte, a moderate, in that country's presidential elections last Sunday.

The President deleted criticisms of Congress from earlier drafts of his speech in order to win bipartisan support for his aid package.

The House of Representatives had been blocking the President's request for $62m (£44m) in immediate emergency aid for El Salvador and $132m for fiscal 1985. But Mr Thomas O'Neill, the House Speaker, made it clear that the House would continue to oppose the requested $21m for the CIA-backed Nicaraguan rebels.

The main reason for the President's address was to explain his Central American policy to the American public and to warn them of the dire consequneces of failing to prevent the spread of "communist subversion" in the region.

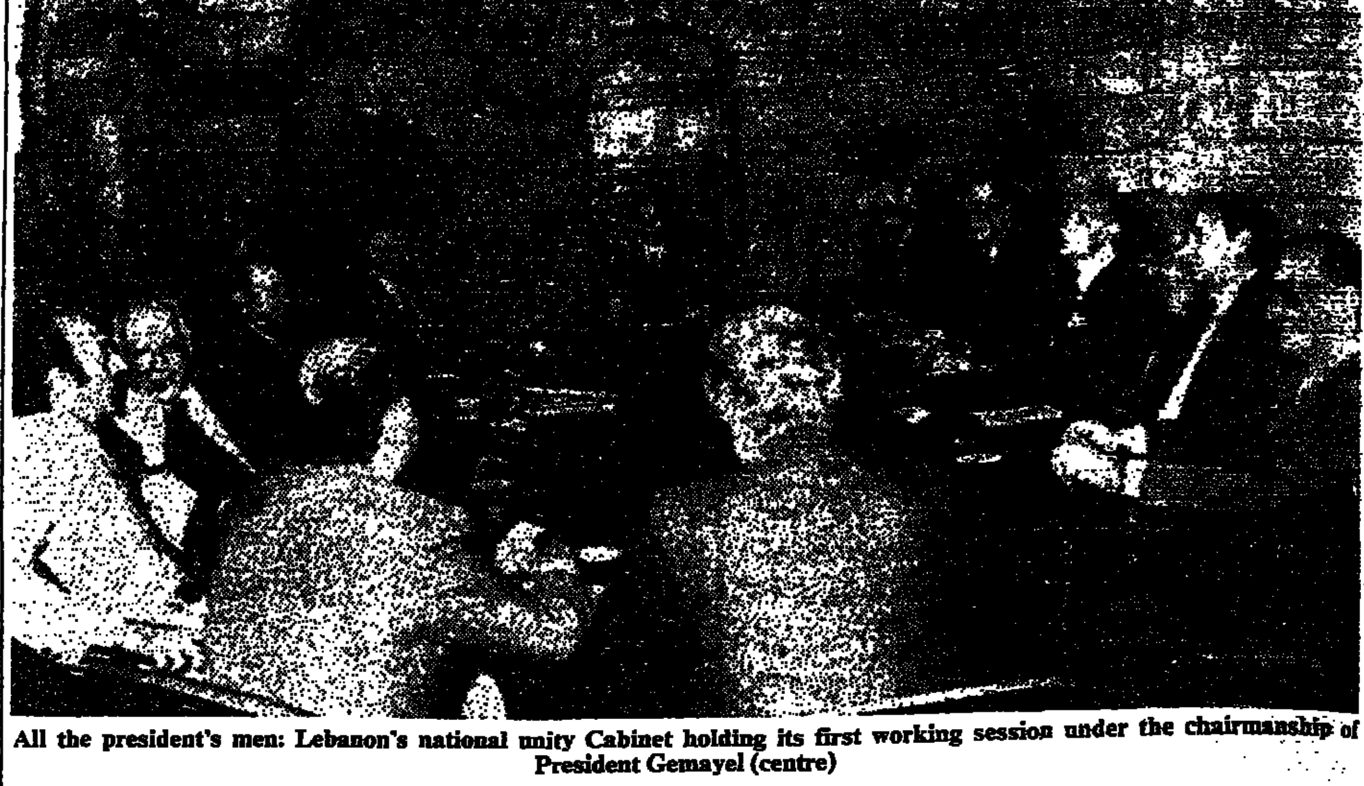
● MANAGUA: Señor Daniel Ortega the Nicaraguan junta leader has accused President Reagan of "maliciously distorting" both the Sandinista revolution and its foreign policy during his televised address

Señor Ortega, addressing Labour ministers at the non-aligned movement, characterized the President's appeal for understanding of his Central American policies as "desperate". He added: "To justify his request he did no more than to repeat a series of unfounded and absurd slanders against our Government."

● TEGUCIGALPA: Honduras announced the recall of its ambassador to Nicaragua after Sandinista troops shot down a Honduran helicopter, killing all eight people on board.

Señor Edgardo Paz Barnica, the Foreign Minister, said the recall did not represent a break in relations but could lead to one "if the Sandinista Government does not rectify its criminal and aggressive conduct against Honduras."

Leading article, page 17



All the president's men: Lebanon's national unity Cabinet holding its first working session under the chairmanship of President Gemayel (centre)

Cabinet's first job to reform Lebanon army

From Our Correspondent Beirut

Lebanon's "national unity" Cabinet held its first meeting yesterday and quickly agreed to Muslim demands to reform the army. During the February fighting in west Beirut, the Army split along sectarian lines.

The Cabinet also appointed a committee of ministers under Mr Rashid Karami, the Syrian-backed Prime Minister, to develop a political platform for presentation to the Lebanese Parliament.

"We are now marching towards peace", Mr Karami said in a statement broadcast on state radio after the Cabinet session. He also said that the ministers would meet again today, with the country's hamstrung transportation system at the top of the agenda.

Beirut's port and airport have been closed since February 6, and all but one road between the Christian and Muslim sectors of the capital are closed. In the rest of the country, many roads are unpassable.

President Gemayel, who chaired the meeting at his summer palace in Bikfaya, 10 miles north-east of Beirut, told reporters: "The atmosphere was good."

In fact, the session marked the first time since the start of the civil war in 1975 that the country's principal "warlords" – all given ministerial posts in the new Government – gathered around a table in their own country.

Zimbabwe press tour a fiasco

From Stephen Taylor Bulawayo

The first attempt by the Zimbabwe Army to take foreign journalists into the Matabeleland South province since a harsh curfew was imposed more than three months ago was abandoned on Wednesday when the escorted group got lost in the operational zone.

The tour, led by Lieutenant-General Rex Nhongo, had been arranged by the Government in an attempt to counter reports of widespread atrocities against the Ndebele inhabitants of the troubled province.

More than 40 correspondents left Bulawayo in an army bus just after midday having first reported to officials at 8.30. The delay was the first of a series of misfortunes to befall the tour which turned into a fiasco.

General Nhongo had promised that journalists would be taken wherever they requested. Correspondents submitted a list of eight priority areas but the general insisted that the tour set off on an indirect route to a place named Brunapeg, which had been mentioned by journalists but was not on the list.

At 1.20 pm the bus with four armed escort vehicles entered the curfew area.

In the remaining hours of daylight the group saw a total of about a dozen civilians along the way. Most villages seemed deserted. The tour group did not stop to speak to anyone.

The bus then got stuck in soft sand while trying to cross a dry river bed. Two escort vehicles managed to tow it out in half an hour. At 4.40 pm the journalists agreed that the enterprise had become a shambles and asked to return directly to Bulawayo.

At 5.10 pm with the light fading the soldiers in the leading vehicle admitted that they had no maps of the area. "We do not know where we are but we are not lost" one soldier said.

Finally, after asking directions at a kraal, the bus reached Brunapeg at 7.05 pm to be met by General Nhong. The news men declined to attend a briefing on the security situation and insisted on being taken straight back to Bulawayo.

It was agreed that the tour should return to Bulawayo

The weary party, having eaten only army rations and having drunk nothing since setting out, reached Bulawayo again at 12.45 am yesterday morning, almost 13 hours after setting out and without having visited a single site of alleged atrocities.

Shamir rebukes minister for terror speech

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, has publicly dissociated himself from outspoken remarks made by a member of his Cabinet, Mr Yuval Neeman, who shocked many Israelis by claiming there had been "positive results" from the Jewish terror attack which maimed two West Bank mayors in 1980.

The argument by Mr Neeman, the Science Minister and leader of the small Techiya Party, that the attack on the elected Palestinian leaders should be treated differently from other terrorist crimes now being investigated among 25 Jewish settlers under arrest has caused a political storm that seems certain to spill over into the forthcoming election campaign.

A government communique stated: "The remarks of Minister Neeman were contrary to the opinions of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir which have been expressed in Cabinet meetings and in public. The Premier's opinion is clear and well known. He rejects all attempts of the type relating to the suspects under arrest."

This did not prove sufficient for the main opposition Labour Party, which responded with its own statement expressing "astonishment" at Mr Neeman's justification for the bombing of the mayors and calling on Mr Shamir to put his reservations into effect by sacking the Science Minister.

Another call for the Minister's dismissal came from Mr Ezer Weizman, leader of the new Yahad Centre Party. The former Likud Defence Minister, who could play a vital role in determining the shape of the next Israeli Cabinet, was himself attacked in Mr Neeman's original statement. This was not delivered in the form of off-the-cuff remarks but rather as a formal communique distributed by the Government's press office.

Ethiopia blast confirms Libya terror links

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The house in Addis Ababa where five Libyans and an Ethiopian died in a mystery explosion is thought to have been used as an arsenal for "liberation" movements in the Horn of Afdrica.

Several other people were injured and the death toll may rise, according to sources in the Ethiopian capital, who say the blast was caused by a device of some kind inside the house.

The Libyan People's Bureau (embassy) in the city refused to answer the telephone or open the door to callers, and the Ethiopian Government is unlikely to make any statement regarding the incident.

But this latest evidence of Libyan involvement in international terrorism, can serve only to put Western security forces even more on their guard and to underline British concern for the 8,000 to 9,000 expatriates living and working in Libya itself.

A promise of support for Colonel Gaddafi came yesterday from Iran whose Foreign Minister, Mr Ali Akbar Yellayati, left for Tripoli with a good-will message, according to the Iranian National News Agency (Irna).

Before he left Tehran, Mr Yellayati accused the United States and its allies of mounting extensive plots against the Gaddafi regime, a reference, it is thought, to the reported assassination attempt on the Libyan leader on Tuesday.

Colonel Gaddafi himself has accused the US, Britain and Sudan, among others, of arming and training dissidents who are said to have taken part in Tuesday's gun battle in Tripoli. Tunisia yesterday went as far as to deny categorically any involvements in the attack.

Meanwhile in London, the Foreign Office is planning a series of meetings with companies which have employees in Libya, to work out a joint strategy of their protection

Officials would not discuss specific proposals which are being considered. The advice being given to firms at present is to use their commercial judgment on matters which arise, while Breitish citizens in Libya have been told that they should consider their situation carefully.

There are a number of contingency plans for helping the expatriates after the withdrawal of the British ambassador and his staff.

The Italian Embassy in Tripoli is looking after British interests meanwhile, together with two British consular officials who have remained there. But the Foreign Office points out that this arrangement can be no proper substitute for a full-scale embassy.

China and Vietnam in clashes

Kunming, China (Reuter) – Chinese frontier guards repulsed several Vietnamese raids in the past week in the southern border regions of Yunnan and Guangxi, according to the New China news agency.

A senior official in Yunnan rejected charges by Vietnam that Chinese forces were mounting their own attacks across the frontier.

Useful meeting

Peking – Britain and China had "useful and constructive talks" on the future of Hongkong yesterday and the day before, according to a British Embassy spokesman the next round of talks, the fifteenth, will be held on May 30-31 in Peking.

Mauroy better

Paris – M Pierre Mauroy, the French Prime Minister, who has been in hospital since May 4 suffering from an undefined lung infection, is expected to leave hospital tomorrow and resume his duties in full on Monday.

Taiwan charge

Taipei (Reuter) – A former senior Taiwanese official, Mr Pai Chi-Ho, aged 66, has been charged with forgery and corruption in connexion with a loan fraud involving £2.2bn.

Dock blaze

San Francisco (AP) – A fire destroyed two piers and caused at least $2.5m (£1.8m) on the San Francisco waterfront. The city fire chief said it was the worst blaze he had ever seen on the waterfront.

Briton jailed

Paris – David Wilson, a 42-year-old Briton, was sentenced to six years' imprisonment in Bayonne for trying to take 238lb of cannabis into France from Spain in December.

Sniper gives up

Quebec City (Reuter) – A sniper who shot and wounded two passers-by on Wednesday surrendered early yesterday, after a 24-hour siege of his house. He was named as Jean-Claude Nadeau, aged 39.

Correction

The 831 deaths in South African mines last year were 24 more than in 1982, not 230 more, as stated on May 4.

Karamanlis renews Games offer

By Our Foreign Staff

President Karamanlis of Greece has renewed his offer of a permanent site for the Olympic Games in Greece in view of the crisis caused by the Soviet decision to boycott the Los Angeles games.

He said the decision had placed in serious jeopardy the future of "a unique and age old institution."

Instead of promoting ecumenical brotherhood the Olympic Games had become a factor of international tension and commercial exploitation. A permanent site for the Games would eliminate these disadvantages.

Meanwhile Vietman has also pulled out of the Games. A Communist Party newspaper in Hanoi yesterday accused the US Government of drawing up plans to kidnap Vietnamese athletes.

Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Romania have not officially announced if they will join the Eastern block boycott begun in Moscow and followed up by East Berlin and Sofia.

Sources in Prague said yesterday that a "political decision" on Czechoslovakia's participation was likely to be taken in the next two days but was unlikely to be made public until a National Olympic Committee meeting on May 17.

France, Japan and the Vatican have all stepped into the Olympic dispute. M Nelson Paillou, President of the French Olympic Committee sent a telegram yesterday pleading with his Soviet counterpart to save the Olympic movement from a "fatal blow"



The stormy Petrel

Naturalist has bird on the brain

Suva, Fiji (Reuter) – British naturalist Dick Watling's year-long search in Fiji for a bird thought to be extinct ended when it crashed on his head.

The bird, known as MacGillivray's Petrel, was recorded for the first and last time 129 years ago on the island of Gau, midway between this South Pacific state's two main islands.

A survey ship caught one specimen of the small black and brown bird which is now stuffl ed and on show in a London museum.

Watling said he proved last week that the bird still existed when he lured one specimen in at night from the sea using flashlights and amplified recordings.

It crashed on his head, then after examining the dazed bird he let it go. "I can't take one as a specimen until I know how many there are", said Watling, a Fiji resident.

He had made several trips to Gau sponsored by the International Council for Bird Preservation



banon army

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Sniper gives up

Correction



OUP

Forte

Sri Lanka all-party talks face collapse as Tamils threaten to quit

From Michael Hamlyn
Colombo

The all-party conference launched by the Sri Lankan Government of Mr J. R. Jayewardene with a national and international fanfare in January appears finally to be in the throes of disintergration.

Already boycotted by the leading opposition party, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party of Mrs Sirimayo Bandaranaike, the conference is now faced with a withdrawal by the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress (ACTC), the two principal parties of Sri Lanka's ethnic minority.

When the conference resumed on Wednesday after a seven-week break, the Government proposed, as was disclosed by *The Times* earlier, that two committees be formed. One would discuss the powers to be developed on local government bodies, the second would consider minority grievances in education, employment and language.

The TULF and the ACTC announced that they would not participate in the committees unless the conference first decided to what unit of local government the powers were to be devolved. Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, the General Secretary of the TULF, told me yesterday that the Tamils felt betrayed and lied to by the Government. They were trying to return the attention of the conference to a document known in conference jargon as "Annexure C".



Mr Jayewardene: warning of explosion

This represented the fruit of the discussions between the Sri Lanka and the Indian governments in the latter part of last year. At the end of the process Mr Jayewardene – as reported by Mr Amirthalingam – told Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, that he would press for regional councils as the devolved authority. The TULF understood this to mean a combination of provincial councils, and on that basis were persuaded to attend the talks.

Annexure C, however, was rejected by the Buddhist clergy when the round table talks began in January. Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, the Prime Minister, told Parliament that the Government would never agree to a devolved authority larger than the district council, and the President himself told me: "Anything further than district councils would cause an explosion."

The Tamils now feel that they have heard all this before. "We spent four years discussing the powers that should be devolved on district councils", Mr Amirthalingam said yesterday. "Now the President thinks he can do it all again in a fortnight."

"The Government has failed to make a serious effort at a negotiated settlement", Mr Amirthalingam added.

"We have negotiated with them for years, and we have made it plain that district councils will never satisfy us. We thought that because of India's intervention at least they would honour their commitment to another government, but they seem to be treating their commitment to another government as they have treated ourselves."

Mr Amirthalingan was firm. "The all-party conference as it is at present functioning is an exercise in futility," he said.

The next move by the TULF is to launch a non-violent direct action protest movement against the effects of the emergency regulations on the Tamil population of the northern and eastern provinces of Sri Lanka. The protest is expected to begin in a month's time.



Kremlin ceremony: King Juan Carlos of Spain and Queen Sofia flanked by President Chernenko and his wife Anna in Moscow yesterday.

Warm Moscow welcome for King of Spain

From Richard Owen
Moscow

In a display of ceremonial which would have done the Russian *ancient regime* proud, the Soviet leadership yesterday gave King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain a glittering welcome as they began a six-day visit marking reconciliatiion between Russia and Spain.

The royal couple were met at Vnukovo airport by Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister. The ministers' wives were also present, together with a phalanx of Soviet officials. The Spanish King and Queen then sped in an official convoy of black limousines through flag-bedecked streets, smiling and waving at the citizens of republican, communist Russia, some of whom waved back.

The ministers' wives were also present at the Kremlin, where President Chernenko and his wife Anna Dmitrievna were waiting in fromt of the grand Kremlin Palace.

It is only the fourth encounter between a European monarch and the heirs of the Workers' and Peasants' Revolution. King Juan Carlos is regarded as a benevolent embodiment of the principle of divine right constitutionally restricted – as he played a key role in restoring democracy after nearly four decades of fascist rule under General Franco. Memories are still strong in Soviet Russia of the Spanish Civil War. In which Moscow backed the republican side.

"Spain even has a socialist government," one official remarked yesterday. "Even if it is in Nato. "Spain's Nato membership has been frozen pending a referendum.

Pravda yeterday praised Soviet-Spanish relations as a "bridge of co-operation" and said that positive changes had taken root since Spain and Russia established diplomatic relations seven years ago, a comparatively short period of time".

The King is accompa nied by the Spanish Foreign Minister Señor Fernando Morán, who is to hold talks with Mr Gromyko.

All political reporting banned in Pakistan

Islamabad (Reuter) – Pakistani newspaper appeared yesterday without their usual sprinkling of political news and opposition statements after the military Government banned all reporting on outlawed political parties.

Newspaper editors said the Information Ministry issued the ban on Wednesday night, just after the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) condemned the Government's plan for elections by next March.

The indefinite ban covers all news and comments by or about politicians both inside and outside Pakistan, they said. Not even the names of parties which were banned in 1979 can be mentioned.

Officially Pakistan has no press censorship but editors say Information Ministry officials regularly telephone them with "advice" on which stories to suppress and which to play up.

Coverage of the opposition increased recently as politicians arrested before or during the MRD's two months of anti-government protests last autumn were freed and resumed their activities.

The 11-member MRD states that Pakistan faces a "crisis of unprecedented magnitude." It accused President Zia of treating the people with contempt and said basic human rights were denied, the Press muzzled, the judiciary crippled, the economy faltering and law and order deteriorating.

Craxi turns down P2 resignations

From John Earle
Rome

Signor Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister, Yesterday rejected the resignations of his three Social Democrat ministers in a flare-up of the P2 scandal.

One of the three, Signor Pietro Longo, Minister of the Budget and Social Democrat party secretary, was on the list of more than 900 alleged members of the secret and now banned P2 masonic lodge, on interim report by Signora Tina Anselmi, the Christian Democrat chairwoman of Parliament's all-party P2 commission of inquiry, has said that the list was authentic.

The other two, Signor Franco Nicolazzi, Minister of Public Works and Signor Pierluigi Romita, Minister for the Regions, were not on the list.

Signor Longo, who has always denied membership, took them to an unexpected meeting with Signor Craxi, at the end of which it was announced that the three had expressed indignation at the "arbitrary judgements and defamatory intent" of the report and offered to resign.

Signor Craxi, a Socialist, told them that he shared the feelings behind their protest.

Signor Longo contests, the authenticity of the list.

Police use whips on pupils

From Our Own Corresspondent
Johannesburg

Eighteen people were injured yesterday when police used *sjamboks* (whips) to disperse crowds of pupils in a fresh outbreak of violence at schools in black townships near Pretoria. Nearly all the injured were schoolchildren, though one policeman was reported to have been hurt by a stone thrown by a demonstrator.

The incidents occurred on the third day after the reopening of two high schools closed by many weeks of disturbances and boycotts of classes by pupils who say that the Government has failed to meet their grievances. A black schoolgirl was killed in clashes with police in February.

Most of the 6,000 pupils at the two schools turned up yesterday but refused to attend classes and milled about in the schoolyards demanding the release of one of their colleagues arrested by the police. The Department of Education and Training, which handles black education, says this is a matter to be settled between the police and the pupils.

Underlying the unrest are representative councils; the abolition of the age limit regulation which means that pupils over the age of 20 can be refused reentry to school; and the abolition, or control, of corporal punishment.

Nujoma face to face with South Africa

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

South Africa, pursuing the activist diplomacy which began with agreements earlier this year with Mozambique and Angola, will be involved in a complex set of negotiations with its black neighbours today and tomorrow.

Most attention is focused on Lusaka, the Zambian capital, where Dr Willie van Niekerk, South Africa's Administrator-General in Namibia, arrived yesterday for talks today with Mr Sam Nujoma, the exiled leader of Swapo, the guerrilla organization fighting for Namibia's independence.

It is the first direct encounter between South Africa and Swapo since the abortive Geneva conference of January 1981, held under United Nations auspices, Swapo has been waging a desultory, but gradually intensifying, war with South Africa for 18 years.

Mr Nujoma's position has been seriously weakened, however, by the February 16 security agreement between Angola and South Africa which, in effect, has cut Swapo's access to Namibia from its bases in southern Angola.

Speaking in Parliament in Cape Town on Wednesday night, Mr "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, declared: "South Africa will not stand in the way of an agreement between Swapo and the internal parties. If they wish together to form a government of national unity, they can do it because it is their country and their right to do it. Then I have an entity with which I can negotiate".

The talks in Lusaka, Mr Botha contended, "have nothing to do with the South African Government as such", but were between Swapo and a delegation of the internal (ie non-violent) Namibian parties forming the so-called Multi-Party Conference, which arrived in Lusaka yesterday.

It is understood that Dr Van Niekerk and either President Kenneth Kaunda or else a very senior Zambian official will be joint chairmen of the meeting. Apparently, however, this does not preclude Dr Van Niekerk from negotiating on South Africa's behalf.

Mr Sam Nujoma: Ready to negotiate

Hitherto Mr Nujoma has always dismissed the internal parties as puppets and insisted that he will only talk to South Africa. However, he appears to have abandoned that position, and one of the internal parties, the Damara Council, as well as dissidents from another, Swanu (South West Africa National Union), have left the Multi-Party Conference to form part of his delegation.

South Africa's aim, it is becoming clear, is to try to nudge the Namibian negotiating process towards a regional settlement, outside the framework of the United Nations, for which Pretoria has an intense dislike.

Meanwhile, a Swaziland delegation, led by the Prime Minister, Prince Dlamini, and senior members of the Liqoqo, the inner royal council, arrived in Cape Town yesterday for talks today with Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, on security and economic matters.

Kohl's party defeats tax amnesty rebels and rallies behind him

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

After Chancellor Helmut Kohl's victory over party opponents of his plans for an amnesty for firms who evaded tax on party donations. West Germany's Christian Democrats yesterday rallied behind trenchant attacks on the Social Democrats and on trade union calls for strikes to back demands for a 35-hour week.

Government ministers addressing the party congress here accused the unions of damaging the country's economic revival, and said the SPD and the Greens, with their suspicions of new technology and their message of economic and social gloom, offered no alternative to the successful CDU policies that alone would guarantee more jobs and budgetary discipline.

The defeat – by a majority of 473 to 178 – of the incipient revolt in party ranks, especially among young CDU supporters, over the amnesty plans removed the only challenge to the Chancellor at this three-day congress and suggests the Government will be able to ride out the storm over its controversial proposals. Under the amnesty, investigations into some 1,800 cases of tax evasion are to be dropped.

Herr Kohl defended this in a special debate on Wednesday afternoon on three gounds, companies giving money to political parties had done so with a clear conscience, unaware they were breaking any tax laws, many financial supporters of the CDU had stuck by the party in difficult times in the past and the party should not leave them in the lurch; and so many people, including party treasurers, public prosecutors, politicians and businessmen, had ignored irregularities for so long that it was unfair to start prosecutions now.

The amnesty was vigorously championed by Herr Josef Strauss, the chairman of the Bavarian-based Christian Social Union and one of the main recipients of political donations, who stated bluntly, "To carry on a war you need money and ever more money, and election campaigns are a kind of war."

Opponents argued that it was a moral rather than a political issue. People's respect for the law would be damaged and the party brought into ill-repute. Herr Christopher Boehr, the chairman of the Junge Union (Young Conservatives), rejected the defence of acting in good faith, as this could also be applied to squatters and wine sweeteners.

But such arguments failed to sway the majority of delegates, who in a secret ballot gave the Government a clear mandate, though one that was considerably weaker than the party leadership might have hoped for at such a gathering, to drop the whole embarrassing issue.

Other debates were little more than a ritual endorsement of Government policies and a seal of approval on the undisputed leadership of Herr Kohl, whose reputation in his party is probably now at its height.

Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the Finance Minister, presented his plans for a massive tax cut of DM20,000m (£5,168m) by 1986, but warned delegates that this would have to be paid for by higher indirect taxes

Herr Norbert Blüm, the spirited Minister of Labour, challenged West Germany to seize the opportunities the computer revolution presented for new patterns of work.

Metalworkers call for strike

Frankfurt (Reuter) – About 250,000 key West German industrial workers belonging to I. G. Metall, the metalworkers union, will be called out on a regional strike starting on Monday in support of a 35-hour-week, a spokesman for the union, the country's largest, said last night.

Pope praises Thailand hospitality to refugees

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok

The Pope, who arrived in Bangkok yesterday for a two-day visit on the final stage of his Asian-Pacific tour, is expected to appeal to world governments to provide more aid for Indochinese refugees when he visits 18,000 of them at a camp outside Bangkok today. Many of the refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are Catholics.

During a meeting with King Bhumibol and other members of the royal family after his arrival from Papua New Guinea, the Pope praised Thailand's "generous hospitality to thousands and thousands of refugees", and said he had come to thank the King and the Thai people personally. He also spoke of Thailand's respect for man's right to religious freedom which, he told the King, "renders immense honour to your land".

The King in his response praised Catholic priests for bringing European science and technology as well as the Christian faith to Thailand.

Thailand is predominantly Buddhist but the King constitutionally is "the upholder of all religions", including Christianity.

Although Chirstianity has been in Thailand more than four centuries this is the first visit by a Pope. On his arrival from Port Moresby, he made his customary gesture, kneeling swiftly to kiss the ground.

After a meeting with the Supreme Patriarch, the head of Thailand's Buddhist hierarchy, the Pope, assisted by 500 Thai Catholic priests, conducted an open air Mass in the national stadium. Tens of thousands of Catholics flocked to Bangkok for the service which also included traditional Thai dancing and other displays by 2,500 children from Catholic schools and colleges.

Royal greeting: The Pope on his arrival in Thailand yesterday, accompanied by King Bhumibol and followed by Queen Sirikit.

Bangkok has never seen such security measures. More than 4,000 police and secutrity men are deployed around the city. Outside the capital troops are on alert. A senior police officer described the Pope's visit as "an objective test of Thai security". The Thai authorities have abtained reports from foreign intelligence agencies about the whereabouts of international terrorists who might be a danger to the Pope.

Some Thai newspapers last night published unconfirmed reports that Thai police had heen warned that the Venezuelan terrorist, "Carlos" was in Thailand.

The main fear of the authorities is that foreign terrorists might employ a local man to make an attack. Last week a Bangkok man masquerading as a securtity officer was arrested in a hospital room which the Pope will visit today.

Possible demonstrations against the Pope's visit by Buddhist extremists, who claim that the Vatican is trying to undermine Buddhism and traditional culture in Thailand, also worry the authorities. The Prime Minister was urged to cancel the visit because of the allegations. Buddhists, however, seem to have little cause to worry about the activities of Christian churches and missionaries. After more than 400 years Christianity has fewer than 250,000 followers in a population of 50 million.

Britain still sees need for change at Unesco

From Diana Geddes
Paris

Proposals for reform of Unesco, put forward by Mr Amadou M'Bow, its General Secretary, were encouraging but did not cover all areas of concern, Mr John Gordon, the UK permanent delegate, said yesterday.

"Naturally, we would want to explore more thoroughly the detailed implications of what he is proposing, and to see to what extent they conform with our own ideas on the need for change. But we feel that his proposals, as far as they go, are encouraging and in the right direction," he said.

In his opening speech to the 51-member executive board of Unesco, lasting three hours, Mr M'Bow put forward general proposals for improving personnel selection, decentralizing the organization's activities, removing secrecy from expenditure, and improving methods of evaluating its programmes.

He did not touch on criticisms concerning the "politicization" of programmes or financial mismanagement, which are at the heart of American, British and other Western complaints about Unesco.

Britain has said that it will have to reconsider its membership unless there are "significant indications of change" by the end of the year. The US has announced that it will definitely withdraw at the end of 1984 unless radical changes are made.

That is constitutionally impossible, however, as many of the changes the US seeks would have to be approved at the next Unesco general conference, not due to take place until October 1985.

On May 17 the executive board is due to discuss the US decision to withdraw and Britain's position.

Mrs Gandhi wins share in Sanjay's property

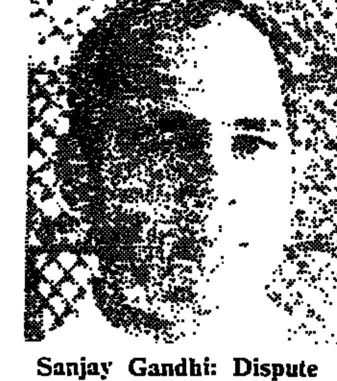
From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi

The Delhi High Court ruled yesterday that Mrs Indira Gandhi was entitled to a share in property worth half a million rupees of her dead son, Mr Sanjay Gandhi.

Mrs Gandhi had claimed the share on the grounds that a Hindu mother was entitled to one third of her son's property

She had also alleged in her petition that her daughter-in-law, Mrs Maneka Gandhi, was not allowing her to meet her grandson, Varun, Sanjay Gandhi's son. Mrs Maneka Gandhi in her reply contested her mother-in-law's claim to the property and pleaded that her concern for her grandson was only a "political gimmick".

The judge held Mrs Gandhi to be a Hindu. Although married to a parsee, the marriage tock place according to Hindu rites.



Sanjay Gandhi: Dispute over his estate

● In Punjab, the former head priest of the Amritsar golden temple, Pratap Singh, was shot dead at his residence

Russia says it is beating alcoholism

From Alan McGregor
Geneva

The problem of alcoholism among Russians has been stabilized and is starting to show signs of a "certain decrease", according to Mr Sergei Petrovich Bourienkov, the Soviet Health Minister, who is attending the World Health Assembly.

He said the Soviet health authorities were "attentively following" the spread of the disease Aids in Europe, but no cases had yet been reported

Asked about reports that both Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident leader who is confined to the city of Gorky, in poor health and needed proper medical treatment, he said: "Gorky has one of the largest and most modern hospitals in the USSR".

Danes withhold part of missile site costs

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Denmark is to withhold the balance of its agreed contribution to the costs of setting up Pershing and cruise missile sites in fellow Nato states.

Parliament passed by 49 votes to 12 an opposition Social Democrat motion in defiance of the policies of the minority centre-right Government, which abstained.

Last year Parliament voted, in another move inspired by the left-wing opposition, to freeze Denmark's 75 million kroner (£5.4m) contribution to the costs of the missile deployments.

Australia broadens diplomatic role

From Tony Duboudin Melbourne

Mr Bill Hayden, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, leaves for an extensive overseas tour today become the first Australian to visit the Soviet Union in 20 years.

Mr Hayden flies first to London where he is expected to meet Mrs Thatcher before going to Paris to attend the ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Later, he will have discussions with the Dutch Government in the Hague and will then travel to Moscow for talks with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister. He will also visit Hungary and Ireland and is expected back in Australia in early June.

Mr Hayden's journey is seen as an attempt by Australia to play a role in reducing international tension by using its position as a middle-ranking power. He is expected to press the Soviet Union strongly to take a more positive stand on disarmament, and will support recent US proposals for an international convention to ban the use and production of chemical weapons.

Mr Hayden will also try to persuade the Russian leadership to change its mind over its boycott of the Olympics.

Britain still sees need for change at Unesco

omatic role

THE ARTS

Television

Nightmare nobility

Channel 4's Survive is a tough series and *The Concentration Camps*, last night, was the toughest so far. Survivors told how they did it: living day by day, thinking of neither past nor future, seizing opportunities of lighter work, being as inconspicuous as possible, giving no sign that they retained any independence of spirit or human dignity. "Doglike submissiveness" was demanded and had to be simulated.

Individuals, it appeared – being able, unlike those with families, to concentrate on their own plight – stood the better chance. The stories were horrific but Nick Downie's programme brought out the nobility of those who came through. A Jewish survivor explained how "the most gigantic confidence trick of all time" [illegible] to [illegible] ment [illegible] rumo[illegible] not [illegible] could [illegible]

In [illegible] expe[illegible] lifesp[illegible] The [illegible] betw[illegible] racia[illegible] ing [illegible] beha[illegible] starv[illegible] desp[illegible] the gas chambers and in human experimentation.

In this "insane world, a life with its own ethics and morality", some hung on to the will to live and, recognizing it in others, formed mutually sustaining groups. The signs of breaking were easily recognizable – tears, not attempting to wash in the morning, obsession with food to the extent of grabbing for it even when under surveillance.

A survivor told how he took advantage of the delousing of clothes to get warm food. Discovering that it was a steam process, he stuffed potatoes in his pockets and received them back warm. From then on he gathered lice – "it was a business".

Another told how he had sung a prayer among the [illegible]

Cinema

Exuberant creation of community

Rue Cases nègres (PG)
Chelsea Cinema

Secret Places (15)
Gate Bloomsbury; Classics Haymarket, Oxford Street

Cross Creek (U)
Classics Haymarket, Chelsea, Tottenham Court Road

[illegible] enice [illegible] prizes [illegible] its beautiful [illegible] as a [illegible] is, wh[illegible] the most attractive and optimistic film at present on show in London.

Which is not to say that it is without ferocity. It is based on a novel by Joseph Zobel, which is a largely autobiographical story of a clever poor boy struggling to win education in French Colonial Martinique in the early Thirties. The obstacles are immense; and the ultimate prize may [illegible] ome them: young José's scholar[illegible]p and the hope it offers of escape [illegible] and concern for the [illegible] life is his illiterate, brave, magnificent grandmother, M'man Titine. Neither she nor José himself can conceive what the goal will be like; they only know that it must be something better than the life they have.

Euzhan Palcy's characters are ebullient, funny, overflowing with life. José (Garry Cadenat) is as mischievous and misled as any healthy bright kid anywhere, only with some little extra wisdom in his observation of the people around him: his friend the handsome young sailor who cheerfully accepts the role of gigolo to lecherous white ladies; his less fortunate class-mate whom misfortune turns into a criminal. The outstanding figure though is the grandmother: Darling Legitimus's [illegible] colour.

Darling Legitimus is one of the two professional actors in the film (the other is the Senegalese Douta Seck, who plays the boy's spiritual father, a sage old former slave). They blend faultlessly with the non-professionals – "naturals" as Euzhan Palcy prefers to call them, who make up the rest of the large cast – a fair proportion, it seems, of the population of Martinique.

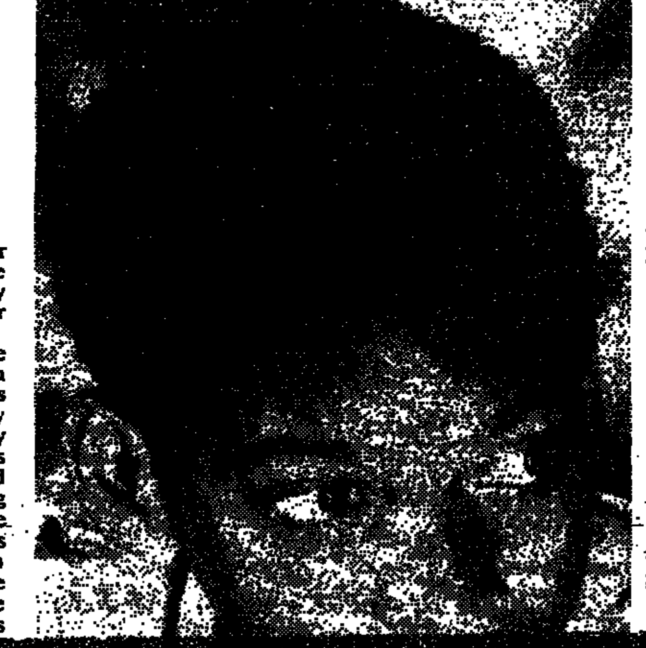
Secret Places also marks the debut of a woman dir[illegible] time English. Zelda Barron has worked since the Sixties as producer, production assistant, writer and generally useful person on films ranging from *If*... and *Morgan* to *Valentino* and *Reds*. Her first film as a director evidently represents a very personal [illegible] of the times and the atmosphere of school life forty years ago – even if the [illegible] grace and self-possession that isolates her almost as much as [illegible] prejudices and suspicions of war, from the St Trinian English [illegible] lescents. Tara MacGowran (daughter of the irreplaceable Jack) is the plain, good-natured, independent-minded intellectual of the class; and there is a notable supporting performance [illegible] Ann-Marie Gwatkin as their shy and shockable Irish classmate. The school staff too has the distinction of Sylvia Coleridge as the tough old maid everyone recalls from schooldays; and Jenny Agutter as the pretty young target for every girl's crushes. [illegible] rather than a purposefully constructed film.

[illegible] whose novel *The Yearling* is a modern American classic. About the time that Joseph Zob[illegible] to school in Port de F[illegible] Rawlings, it appears, left [illegible] husband and the city behind her, to live on a run-down orange grove in backwoods Florida. Having failed to make a mark as a writer of gothick romance, she suddenly achieved success when she began to record the sad and comic lives of her new neighbours.

Photographed by John Alonzo, the [illegible] has warmth [illegible] forceful [illegible] by Peter [illegible] wlings's local [illegible] comic one by Al[illegible] Topsyesque maid [illegible] bit part by [illegible] farm-labourer it [illegible] the end [illegible] Par[illegible] lacks [illegible] Steenburgen never seems to discover a character in Margaret Rawlings.

[illegible] lawyers, moguls and proper[illegible] opers. To judge from David [illegible] tock's portrait of present-day [illegible] wood in his book *Indecent E*[illegible] it probably all seems just [illegible] the executive classes [illegible] industry.

The film has an [illegible] based on Jacques Tourneur's [illegible] film of [illegible] *the Past* (retitled in Britain *Bu*[illegible]) [illegible] part of an all-embracing network of corruption. The [illegible] potential of the idea is sacrificed to a [illegible]



Faultless blend of character: Garry [illegible]

David Robinson

Opera

Don Pasquale
Theatre Royal, Brighton

After breaking themselves in with an unrelievedly comic *Cosi*, Warsaw Chamber Opera, with the same producer, Jitka Stokalska, and the same four mime artists, have now turned to Donizetti and *Don Pasquale*. The Venice of the Grand Canal's palazzi and of the Accademia, nicely portrayed in more of Andrzej Sadowski's hangings, is peopled with attendant spirits: harlequin housemaids may dress Norina or comfort the Don, and epicene gondoliers may prepare his bath or row his boat.

Apart from making the same basic mistake of underestimating just how much of the work the music does quite happily by itself, Ms Stokalska's mimetic ideas are far less intrusive here than in *Cosi*. For a start, they are less superfluous, and pose no threat to the musical or emotional equipoise. More happily married to the work's existing *commedia dell'arte* context and to the production's own comic business, at best they animate and charm some rather blunt-edged musical direction, and at worst simply tire the eye by their frequency and predictability.

In fact, if Janusz Przybylski, in the pit, would only dust out some of the corners in the score and light up others, this production, to be repeated tomorrow, could well carry itself off with quite some flair by the time it reaches Northampton. For the principals, in this first cast, are the strongest we have heard yet from this company.

Pasquale himself is a vocally secure, deliciously blustering and baffled portrayal by Edward Kmiciewicz; and Alicia Slowakiewicz as Norina returns, after *Halka*, with her coloratura at its diamantine best, a little dry at the top but engaging brilliantly with every orchestral and verbal cogwheel.

Kazimierz Myrlak is *povero Ernesto*: convincingly cast, but, after his Ferrando, still reluctant, and perhaps wisely so, to unleash the full strength of his expressive but ill-supported tenor. Andrzej Poraska as Dr Malatesta loosens up as he sings himself into the part, and the ensemble work grows considerably in both musical and dramatic self-confidence as the evening progresses.

Hilary Finch

John Higgins, in Monte Carlo, visits the Printemps des Arts

Festive brainwave

Monte Carlo has just completed its first Printemps des Arts and the most surprising element is that no one thought of having one before. The Principality of Monaco starts with a number of inbuilt advantages. There is, for example, the matter of funding: between five and six per cent of the national budget goes to the arts in one form or another. With that sort of allocation the Arts Council in Piccadilly might even consider refinancing the Royal Court. Then, because of its tax laws, Monaco probably has more international performers in residence to the square kilometre than any other corner of Europe. Several of them are ready to appear on their own doorstep.

And it is now well endowed with theatres. There are two newish ones: the hall of the Centre de Congres, used for stars of the magnitude of Barenboim, and the Théâtre Princesse Grace, a converted cinema – not often it happens that way round – which holds 350 and tends to be used for early evening recitals. But a few steps away is the centre of Monégasque life, the Casino, and within, rather like a *Hoftheater*, the Salle Garnier. It was built at the end of the last century as a replica of the Paris Opéra, as its name suggests, and by the same architect.

Nothing has changed since then to judge from contemporary photographs: the history of the first 30 years of the theatre (Gill and Macmillan) has been written by Dr Tom Walsh, creator of the Wexford Festival, and a second volume is expected next spring. The name of Hérold is enshrined next to that of Mozart on the right hand wall, an indication of the taste of the time, and the main entrance leads directly to the royal box. This was more often than not occupied. Princess Caroline was certainly not president of the Printemps des Arts in name only, and she appeared at practically every performance.

In the interval the audience divides itself between the bars, the promenade and a few minutes at the gaming tables with a pocketful of francs. Perhaps one of these days Prokofiev's *The Gambler* and Tchaikovsky's *Queen of Spades* will play in tandem. Or maybe the croupiers will object.

But back to the Printemps. This first festival has been a mixture of dance – Nederlands Dans Theater and the Moscow Classical Ballet, due in London next week – and music. The musicians have been selected so that established artists, such as Raimondi and Cotrubas, are interspersed with those at the very start of their careers, for whom the Théâtre Princesse Grace is a conveniently small and intimate auditorium. The latter are usually selected on the basis of picking up a prize or two at the international competitions of the previous year.

The Romanian violinist Mihaela Martin was first heard at Glasgow in 1975 when she was but a schoolgirl. Last summer she won first prize at Indianapolis. On stage she dressed to look more like Carmen than Mihaela and there was quite a lot of brilliant East European gypsy tone in her playing, notably in Prokofiev's *Melodies* for violin and piano, Op 35. She would have sounded even better with a more accomplished accompanist, but there is obviously a good career ahead.

The Cuban tenor Jesus Li Cicilio, who won first prize at Vienna's Belvedere International Competition last July, an event which draws Europe's Intendants and carries a fair weight of prestige, was altogether more difficult to judge. He chose a string of arias from what used to be the di Stefano repertoire – Ernesto, Edgardo, Nemorino, Duca di Mantova, Verdi *Requiem* – which showed some ringing high notes and plenty of stamina but some musical bad habits. He is 32, so the latter need to be eliminated quickly. A final section of *zarzuelas* rather surprisingly revealed a lack of weight at the bottom of the voice. However, there are not so many aspiring tenors around in the Donizetti repertoire and Senor Cecilio with coaching would be worth watching.

There were no such doubts over the great success of the closing days of the Printemps, a recital by Mirella Freni which packed the Salle Garnier. It is probably twenty years since Freni has been to this theatre and coming up to thirty years since she started singing professionally. Everything remains in place: the charm, the musicality, the control over the voice which never descends into archness and never expands into blowsiness. Mirella Freni is as idiomatic in Duparc as she is, predictably, in a Rossini song like "La promessa".

The recital, brief but most adroitly chosen, proved that what Monte Carlo really likes is song and what it likes best of all is Mme Freni singing "Depuis le jour" from *Louise*. Now *that* is a Monte Carlo opera. Next spring Frederica von Stade, Renato Bruson and Teresa Berganza are expected. And in the winter opera season Julia Migenes-Johnson will be heard in *Manon Lescaut*.

Theatre

The Ramayana
Sadler's Wells

This heroic project dates back to 1969 when World Theatre Season plans to present Gopal Sharman's English-language adaptation of *The Ramayana* ran aground on Peter Daubeny's insistence on a Hindi text. Sharman and his wife, the actress Jalabala Vaidya, thereupon returned to Delhi, founded a repertory theatre, campaigned successfully against Indian stage censorship, and launched another version of their national epic which now reaches London 1,400 performances later after a season on Broadway.

In place of the elaborate company spectacle originally designed for the Aldwych, Sharman substituted a portable version, based on the ancient art of Indian story-telling (which kept national literature alive during the centuries of Mogul occupation) and performed solo by Vaidya on a stage set up as a shrine to Rama and his immortal ally, the monkey-god Hanuman.

Its obvious achievement, to any spectator coming fresh to a work of near-biblical authority and complexity, is the clarity of the narrative. Rama's deposition from the throne, his voluntary exile, the abduction of his beloved Sita, and his battle to regain her from the tyrant Ravana, emerge with an inevitability that proclaims this to be one of the great stories of the world; and one that offers telling parallels with the politics of co-existence.

The higher spiritual purposes of the production were lost on me; not least when expressed through Sharman's flowery and repetition-laden syntax.

He has a forceful exponent in Vaidya, a commanding figure with a noble senatorial profile, who combines the qualities of story-teller and priestess. As an actress she goes in for bold strokes rather than detail, and contrasted voices rather than character transformation. As an arrogant monarch sparring with a scornful captive, she is on surer ground than when delivering labyrinthine incantations. But for newcomers to *The Ramayana* this is the place to start.

A brief note on Robert Walker's revival of Edgar Wallace's *On the Spot*. First seen at Watford in March, this electrifying production has now transferred to the Albery where Simon Callow's Capone-like lead performance is not to be missed.

Irving Wardle

Concert

Philharmonia/Willcocks
Festival Hall

If one wanted to prove the unlikely hypothesis that Holst was a better composer than Elgar, it would be difficult to imagine a more effective method than to juxtapose, as the Bach Choir did on Wednesday, Holst's *Hymn of Jesus* with Elgar's *The Music Makers*, the latter with Sarah Walker as soloist.

Holst's wonderfully original work is strikingly characterized, its harmonic language exceptionally precise and well imagined: Elgar's is a more diffuse affair, shot through with echoes of his earlier pieces (which sound more sentimental than anything else) fleshed out with new material that, apart from one or two startling moments, seems distinctly thin.

Admittedly, Holst's evocative progressions need rather more generous an acoustic than that of the Festival Hall; but they need, too, a cleaner edge than the Bach Choir gave them and a more powerful sense of direction than Sir David Willcocks was inclined to demand. The plainsong atmospherics worked well (though the semi-chorus should be more distant than was possible here), but the interlocking chords in which Holst approaches a real bitonality tended to slide together: in the most perfect line, "Know in Me the word of Wisdom", the F sharp triad was not quite securely held against G, and the exquisitely indeterminate chord on the final word was too woolly to convince.

At the Royal Philharmonic Society concert in 1920 when the *Hymn of Jesus* was first performed, it was preceded by a Bach cantata and a Handel organ concerto. With its weighty sense of tradition, the RPS repeated the scheme and the massive, full-throated trundle through Bach's "Nun ist das Heil" would not have disgraced a Twenties Three Choirs Festival. Things were lighter in Handel's "Cuckoo and Nightingale" Concerto, which Simon Preston played coolly, correctly, but too carefully.

Nicholas Kenyon

SPECTRUM



The Chieftains: when Irish eyes are smiling on the Great Wall of China

The reel thing

Go into a record shop to buy an album by The Chieftains and you might have a hard time finding it. Are they a rock group or classical musicians, or are they Irish folk? Alan Franks listened to their words and music and helps to label them

Last Saturday the Irish music group, The Chieftains played to a packed Festival Hall in London at the start of a four-week British tour to mark their 21st anniversary. During their time together they have probably done more than any other living musicians to raise a largely oppressed body of music from relative obscurity to a commodity in international demand. Last year they became the first western group to perform in ensemble with a Chinese folk orchestra, during a trip which is to be the basis of a film documentary. In their own country their records have now sold 250,000 copies, and they once performed to a live audience of 1,350,000 people in Dublin's Phoenix Park, even though, as one of their number admits: "That was the Pope's gig. We were just the opening act."

In England they played the score for the Sadler's Wells Ballet, *The Playboy of the Western World*, and this did more than anything else to enhance their standing as artists of a classical caste.

It was the group's self-given brief from the outset to restore to vogue a music downgraded in the cities of Ireland, and to do so with only such instruments as would have been traditionally available. Their early line-up of two fiddles, tin whistle, flute and bodhran was the kind to be found in the rural "bothy bands" of the last century. It was not until nearly 10 years later that the harp was added.

The result is a far cry from the received image of Aran-clad rustics keening out dirges of numbing length. What is being heard this month, in venues as diverse as Exeter Cathedral and a school in Newbury, is music of astonishing rhythmic and melodic complexity in which the eighteenth century Italian mode lives in great harmony with the Gaelic.

The hands fan out to gather the timeless cadences

The really funny thing about their rise to international fame is that, precisely because of the "category problem", they have one foot in the world of rock concerts and film scores and, on all the usual criteria of record and ticket sales, have very nearly superstar status. Funny because of the sheer implausibility of it all: lads – no, grown men from Dublin and Ulster and Roscommon – sharing the bill with the Rolling Stones, or being invited to play at the Capital by Tip O'Neill, or doing a recording with Art Garfunkel; and all because they learned from their fathers and their grandfathers the old jigs and airs which pured out of them as naturally as Guinness went back the other way. An Irish joke in which the Irish win.

Yet there are clichés here, about Paddies making good on foreign shores, which have to be avoided. There was a resurgence of traditional music in Ireland back in the early 1950s that reflected a deep concern for the state of "Our Music." It is a matter of delight to Paddy Maloney that whereas there were once only a handful of uillean pipers coming to the annual conventions for the instrument, there are now several hundred, from all parts of the globe.

These pipes are not to be confused with the older, mouth-blown instrument of war which, with its bone-chilling stridency, accompanied the Irish contingent to *Crecy* in 1346. The uilleun form is a mellower but still plangent affair, with a chanter and drone filled from an elbow bellows. When Maloney, the pivotal member of the band, strikes up, the reel tumbles out above the growl with a sound that could fill a field. As he warms up, first one knee, then the other starts to jig until the contraption seems like some prodigously musical baby being dandled on his lap.

And that is the most perceptible movement among the six men. In the back row the right bicep of the bodhran player flicks and jumps in time, the two fiddlers saw away against each other's counter-melodies and the fluter is almost motionless between breaths. Seated at the front next to Maloney is the most unlikely figure of the bunch, the great harper Derek Bell, the only one in a suit and the only one wearing glasses. The hands fan out across the strings to gather back timeless cadences. Between the bottom bumpings of the bodhran and the tiny tinklings of Bells top strings, the bowed and the blown instruments are filling the rest of the registers with a swirl and skirl of sound.

Bell and the bodhran player, Kevin Conneff represent the poles of the group not only tonally but also in terms of the traditions from which they have all come. Bell studied at the Royal College of Music, in Europe and the US with such celebrated teachers as Leon Goossens and Madame Rosina Lhevinne. He has played with the symphony orchestras of London, Pittsburgh, Moscow and Budapest, and more recently performed as a soloist with the Royal Philharmonic in London. Conneff meanwhile, is a child of the Fifties' and Sixties' international folk music revival, whose first influences were such as the Seegers, Ewan MacColl, and Ian Campbell. "You know, it was out of that movement", he recalls, "that people in Ireland actually became aware of their own traditions."

Matt Molloy, one of the two *non-Dubliners in the group*, talks of how the traditional music of the country was treated as second class stuff. "Second class to what, you ask. I'll tell you: second class to anything else that was going. There was a kind of inferiority complex attached to everything that was your own. It was, like, downtrodden. At the formation of the state, the church didn't treat it with much regard."

"No more did the state," says Sean Keane, the fiddler.

"That's right Sean, they didn't", says Molloy. "Most of our families, like Paddy's, Sean's and my own, they carried it on in their own small pockets. It was very much alive in Clare, also in Longford, where it was linked with Sligo and Leitrim. *As far as the people who played* it were concerned, there was *no* inferiority complex at all, don't get me wrong. It was hard line all the way ... when I was a boy, I used to catch it from my own school-mates. They'd say: 'What d'you want to go playing that kind of stuff for?' and so on."

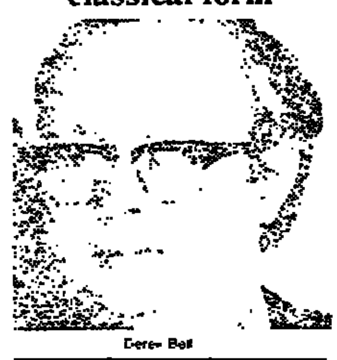
"I think in the beginning we used to get some of the Americans a bit baffled", says Maloney, "which is perhaps a little surprising when you think that the Irish traditional music was probably much more healthy over there during the Thirties and Forties, being kept alive by the descendants of the famine immigrants. They'd got used to all that commercial stuff like *Does Your Mother Come From Ireland?*, which, let's face it, was written by some enterprising Polish expatriate."

Having barred from their line-up all those parvenu instruments like guitars and banjos and, God forbid, synthesizers, the Chieftains would seem to be straightforward custodians of a music too rich to be tampered with. And yet *this is not quite the case*, as the fiddler Martin Fay points out: "No, hang on a moment, I don't think that we're playing it like it was. In the old days, my guess is that it would have been a bit of a free-for-all, everyone just playing the same thing. They might have improvised, but I doubt if they would have *arranged* it like we do now."

Fay's contention is that the application of harmony and counterpoint have been mainly responsible for the grafting of a "classical" identity beneath The Chieftains still-faithful playing of the old melody lines. It is what might be called progressive conservatism.

But there is another reason for the classical sound, for when Bell's musical forbear, Carolan, was playing and writing for his harp in the eighteenth century, he was greatly influenced by the early baroque and since he, in turn, was to have such an influence on his compatriots, it is no wonder that The Chieftains' playing so often comes across as a confluence of the Celtic and the courtly.

'The music we play has every classical form'



Derek Bell

As Derek Bell himself explains: "The music we play has every classical form except the sonata. We have fugal imitation dating back to the baroque: even the *Drowsy Maggie* tune with which we sometimes open the programme – that's in rondo form."

All this talk-and there was plenty more – took place in the unlikely surroundings of a huge new Kensington hotel. It seemed a strange place to harbour such a homely bunch until I was reminded just as Bell and the rest were leaving for the Festival Hall, that it was called the Tara. This, as every Irishman (and no Englishman) knows is the will in County Meath which was the capital of the Fir Bolgs and the Tuatha dé Danann. A very distant note sounded in my head and I scurried to my copy of Thomas Moore's *Irish Melodies*:

"The harp that once through Tara's halls/The soul of music shed./Now hangs as mute on Tara's walls/As if that soul were fled."

CORRECTION

The poet Keith Douglas died in Normandy in June 1944, not near El Alamein as stated in Spectrum on the 2nd May.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: BATS

Seeing the wood for the trees

Bat studies currently under way could improve the design of radar, says Professor David Pye of Queen Mary College. He has been lecturing to engineers about bats' abilities to pick out targets in the foliage of trees, despite surrounding clutter which produces multiple echoes, and fly in for the kill at speed.

The particularly sophisticated hunting trick of using two different forms of ultrasonic echolocation systems is shared by our two most common bat species – the pipistrelle and the noctule. They switch from using pitch to measure speed of motion of their target from the frequency of the echo, to using time delay of the echo to measure the distance.

What's particularly exciting to Professor Pye is the complex battlefront with a series of flexible attack and defence methods. It has been known for some time that some moths can produce jamming signals by buckling two plates in their chest to emit loud ultrasonic pulses. Now researchers are discovering several bat features which enable them to counter-counter attack, stealing up on moths without giving alarm too soon.

● **The mouse-eared bat is verging on extinction in Britain – only two surviving males are living in the South-east. Now the Nature Conservancy Council is considering importing females from Southern Europe to stop Britain's bat species from dropping from 15 to 14.**

Declining numbers in the bat population has led to concern. A National Bat Group, with a paid coordinator, has been formed this year to link two-dozen local interest groups. The first *British Bat* newsletter will be published this summer. Details from the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, c/o Zoological Society of London, Regents Park, London NW1 4RK (01-586 0872).

Shrinking colonies

A national survey of about 200 bat colonies has found that average populations have dropped from 119 to 1978 to 65 last summer. The largest colonies are in Scotland (average 188 bats); the smallest in the Midlands (48). A further count will take place in late June and early July when the mothers forage for food at sunset, shortly before their infants take to flight three weeks after birth. A bat is weaned at five weeks of age.

The maximum bat lifespan is 30 years; the average far less. Some bats don't start breeding until they reach two, and the greater horseshoe bat may be as old as 10 before having young. One offspring is born a year, and not necessarily every year. Nursing mothers share roosts, so a catastrophe in the nursery wipes out a whole colony.

Only six colonies of the greater horseshoe remain, with a total population of 2,200 – a decline of 98 per cent, according to study of piles of guano in caves and other circumstantial evidence collected by Robert Stebbings, adviser to the Nature Conservancy Council, and to the Government on bat legislation.

● **Lindane-based timber treatments which are deadly to bats are still sold legally, although bats are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act – and despite the availability of an *alternative* chemical. Research by bat experts and the Building Research Establishment has shown that permethrin, a synthetic pyrethoid, kills beetles as required but does not harm bats.**

As a result Rentokil have modified their conventional woodworm killer, but they only use the new permethrin product if there is evidence of bats, and with a 10-year instead of a 30-year guarantee.

Tests on a house given a lindane treatment 30 years ago has shown that vapours would still be lethal to bats. Conservationists are continuing to test bats' reactions to other chemicals used to combat wood-boring beetles and timber-rotting fungi. The studies are crucial, since half-a-million homes are treated every year.

Well-trod paths

Bats travel. A female Leisler's marked in the Midlands in 1980 has just been found dead in a cellar in Devon, 150 miles away. The longest flight recorded previously was 63 miles by a pipistrelle in East Anglia. Some 20,000 bats have now been marked with tags, improving identification and revealing nightly routes.

The surveys also proved that bats take individual routes in a line from the main colony. Dr Stebbings has recorded regular journeys radiating 40 to 50 miles between summer and winter habitats from the nursery roosts. The repeated patterns indicate that bats are faithful to a particular colony, although members probably live in a couple of hundred roosts according to sex and season.

Details from Dr Stebbings, Institute of Terrestial Ecology, Monks Wood Experimental Station, Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon PE17 2LS (Abbots Ripton (048 73) 381).

● **About 200 bats from two species, the long-eared and Daubenton's, live within a few feet of each other under a slate and wood roof in a private house in the Scottish highlands. According to Paul Racey, senior lecturer in zoology at Aberdeen University who studied the roost with Susan Swift, research fellow, the bats are not in competition. They wake at different times and leave through the same small hole without overlapping. The study has detailed how these two colonies have coexisted for many years.**

Bats prefer clean and fairly draught-free buildings. Forty-seven per cent of colonies are found in houses less than 25 years old – "Barrett boxes" has become batman jargon. Contrary to popular belief bats do not harm buildings and droppings dry to a powder with only slight smell – excellent, though uneven, insulation. Since the Wildlife and Countryside Act was passed to protect bats, the Nature Conservancy Council has to be informed on any potential disturbance to roosts.

The council is encouraging the building of bat boxes, made of rough-sawn softwood with a slit in the base. Research has shown that successful use is increased when boxes are on the south sides of trees, high up, in areas rich with insects. Predators include squirrels, woodpeckers and owls – at least one is known to have prized off a bat-box lid.

Blanket coverage

Temperature is important for bat comfort: 30°C appears to be the optimum temperature for greater horseshoes' summertime nursery roosts. An *experiment in a roost* near Blandford, Dorset, involves four electric blankets (sandwiches of fibreglass in metal mesh), which have been installed in the roof of an eighteenth-century house used by the greater horseshoe colony. The blankets are kept at different temperatures and bat choices are being recorded by infra-red television cameras.

Outside the breeding season, bats choose roosts according to need. Thin ones tend to hang up in low-temperature roosts so that they expend less energy. A bat's flying temperature is 42°C (higher than man's 37°C), but this falls 10 degrees for digestion after landing; then to the surrounding temperature. Research indicates the need for a large number of roosts for a single colony.

Bats' ultrasonic pulses – inaudible to humans – can be heard through bat detectors. A sophisticated second generation, the S200 developed by Queen Mary College, London, reproduces the exact patterns of bat signals.

The detector can give acoustic profiles on the spot, pinpointing bats even in pitch-darkness.

For the first time detectors can distinguish the unique differences between each species.

The bats (left) have been persuaded to take part in experiments by being offered a dummy target suspended with a microphone under a balloon, linked to the detector and recorder. This is giving exact measurements of speed (up to 25 miles an hour for these small bats') and precision, down to millimetres at a distance of several metres.

Ann Hills

Auntie and the Young Ones go a'revelling

moreover ... **Miles Kington**

A new trend is abroad which has not yet been noticed. It's called not-knocking-the-BBC. Yes, the early part of 1984 was deafened by the outcry against the Beeb and because our ears are *still ringing with the sound*, we haven't noticed that it has stopped. *The Thorn Birds* is forgotten: the ratings battle is not drawing the crowds it used to: *The Jewel In The Crown* can no longer be waved in the BBC's face: and it's months since Max Hastings last lambasted the upper reaches of the Corporation.

Much of what Max said was true, as the middle reaches were quick to agree, but there seemed to be a feeling that once Aubrey Singer had been sacrificed to the gods, things could go quiet again – why, I don't believe I've heard *Sixty Minutes* criticized for more than a week. And as the smoke of battle cleared, the damage on the battleground was much less than supposed.

The BBC may still find it hard to get programmes in the Top Ten, but when you look at most of the ITV programmes that pull in the crowds, you wonder if anyone seriously wants to be in the Top Ten. Furthermore, if a week in which the BBC got 47 per cent of the audience can be described as a very bad week for them, you wonder what they have to do to be called good. If the Tories got 47 per cent in a popularity poll, who would call it bad?

The fashion for slamming the BBC was in large part just that – a fashion. We love slamming something, but we move from target to target. Channel 4 was getting it in the neck last year, and is now agreed to be putting on very good stuff, even if it hasn't got its sums right. Then TV-am fell flat on its face and got the rotten tomatoes, though it seems to be matching the BBC pretty well now. So it was time that the Beeb came in for its fair share of mud-slinging and it has, on the whole, got away quite lightly. You wait and hear the howls of derision that will greet early cable TV. Just you wait and hear.

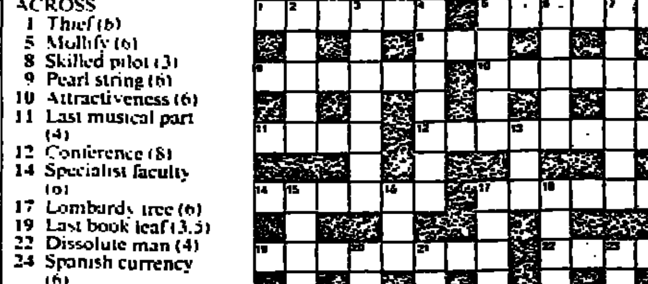
Meanwhile, the BBC has had *the luck to chalk up a few* recent successes. David Attenborough's *The Living Planet* was every bit as good as *Life on Earth* – and producing a good sequel is the hardest trick of all. (If he wants a title for another series looking at our deteriorating environment, I can offer him something I saw written on a car engine the other day: Negative Earth.) For a fortnight they have given us wall-to-wall snooker, the nearest thing to perfect television ever devised. And now they have started a new series of *The Young Ones*.

Right from the start of the first series I was quite convinced that this is the best, brightest, most inspired TV comedy since Monty Python. Also the funniest. They have latched *on to the simple* yet hard truth about comedy: that if you have a solid story line and a cast of clearly drawn characters, you can be as crazy as you like. *The Goon Show* knew that. *Soap* knew that. Not many others do. So, although *The Young Ones* is ostensibly about four ill-matched students in one house, they can without strain introduce a hamster talking broad Scots, the contents of the fridge bursting into song and – a magnificent conceit, this – The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse going mad with boredom and getting nothing from God in answer to their prayers but endless sets of Travel Scrabble.

In an effort to emphasize how original the series is and how much better than *anything else* around, people keep telling us that it is wonderfully anarchic and without precedent. Anarchic is precisely what it isn't: the scripts by Elton, Mayall and Mayer are beautifully controlled and constructed. Without precedent? Nearly, yes, but there is one parallel from nearly 25 years ago which keeps nudging my memory: the radio version of *Hancock's Half-Hour*.

That programme, like *The Young Ones*, put four or five egocentric monsters in the same house and let them get on with their fantasies, with the lamest of excuses for being there. None of the pseudo-sociological background that cripples most sitcom ("John is a single parent with a child who has recently moved in with his divorced father, next door to his mother ..."), simply a huge delight in making outsize egos bump into each other, watching the sparks fly and entering a realm of invention which few comedies even suggest. Twenty-five years hence parents will be saying, "Ah, but you should have seen *The Young Ones* ... on the BBC," they might add. So was Hancock, come to think of it.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 339)



ACROSS
1 Thief (6)
5 Mollify (6)
8 Skilled pilot (3)
9 Pearl string (6)
10 Attractiveness (6)
11 Last musical part (4)
12 Conference (8)
14 Specialist faculty (6)
17 Lombardy tree (6)
19 Last book leaf (3,5)
22 Dissolute man (4)
24 Spanish currency (6)
25 Young cow (6)
26 Industry body (1,1,1)
28 Attitude (6)
28 Church vaults (6)

DOWN
1 Surpass (5)
2 Swagger (7)
4 Deep change advocate (7)
5 Oyster gem (5)
6 Violoncello (5)
7 Prescription (7)
13 Lavatory (3)
15 Setting (7)
16 Egg cells (3)
17 Greek war dance (7)
18 Treacherous act (7)
20 Song of praise (5)
21 Position (5)
23 Bent knee (5)

SOLUTION TO No 338

ACROSS: 8 Primogeniture 9 Nag 10 Retrodden 11 Renew 13 Pitfall 16 Suburbs 19 Audit 22 Whipround 24 Ark 25 Good Samaritan

DOWN: 1 Opener 2 Virgin 3 Sorrower 4 Belt up 5 Kilo 6 Buddha 7 Kennel 12 Emu 14 To and fro 15 Lei 16 Sewage 17 Briton 18 Slummy 20 Dearth 21 Taking 23 Rush

FRIDAY PAGE

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Snuff's the stuff



Can snuff damage your health? For the 250,000 casual and regular nasal takers in this country, who managed to sniff their way through 100,000 kilograms last year, the answer will probably be "no".

Some of the most popular brands are medicated – the tobacco is ground with menthol, camphor or eucalyptus – and are claimed to help clear stuffy heads and combat hayfever.

Nicotine from nasal snuff is absorbed into the bloodstream much more quickly than nicotine from chewing gum and similar levels are reached from a pinch of snuff as a drag on a cigarette. And, because the tobacco is not burnt, carcinogenic gases or tar are not produced. So, if snuff is substituted for cigarette smoking the risks of lung cancer and other diseases will drop.

But, before you reach for the snuff box, remember that every tobacco product carries some health dangers. The whole issue has recently been raised because an American company wants to import a type of "wet" snuff called Skoal Bandits. The snuff is packaged in a tea-bag and eased between the bottom lip and gum. What worries David Simpson, director of the anti-smoking organization Ash, is that the marketing strategy in America suggests that Skoal Bandits carry few health risks.

Yet a report in America in 1981 suggested that among a group of white women from North Carolina there was a significant increase in mouth and throat cancers which could be directly linked with "snuff-dipping" – the use of these bags. In addition other researchers have linked bad breath, teeth and gum problems and a loss of sense of taste and smell with chronic use of smokeless tobacco.

Mr Simpson has made representations to the Department of Health and the Advertising Standards Authority against the import of Skoal Bandits on the grounds that, health considerations aside, they constitute an additional tobacco product being made available without consultation.

Fit feet



Take off your shoes and look at your feet. Are your big toes straight or do they veer off, cramming the other toes? Do you suffer from corns or bunions? If you have any of these problems the chances are they were caused by wearing ill-fitting shoes; if you do nothing now the problem could get worse and cripple you in old age.

*Michael Grillage, a Birmingham GP, has recently written a booklet on the importance of foot care, and how it is underrated.**

Too often, Dr Grillage says, shoe shop assistants measure customers' while they are sitting down. Feet spread considerably when carrying the full body weight and have to support a considerable force when you are walking or running, so have your feet measured while standing up.

He advises fashion-conscious women not to wear shoes with high heels and narrow toes for more than three or four hours.

*Springtime Step can be obtained from Carnation, Cuxson-Gerrard & Co, Fountain Lane, Oldsbury, Warley, West Midlands, B69 3BB. Enclose sae.

It's a sweat



Excessive perspiration can cause real misery. For most people hot weather or strenuous exercise are the only occasions when their sweat glands go into overdrive, for others, without any trigger, sweat trickles down to their elbows continously.

Over-active sweat glands affect the hands feet and armpits. Sufferers are otherwise completely healthy. According to Dr Andrew Pembroke, consultant dermatologist at King's College Hospital: "It is a genuine problem, quite common, and most unpleasant and embarrassing."

The symptoms start in adolescence, reach a peak in the early to mid-twenties and gradually subside during the thirties. For these people the normal awkwardness of the late teens is compounded by smelly feet, rotting shoes and ruined shirts and dresses.

One of the best treatments, available for only a few years, is a solution of aluminium chloride hexahydrate in alcohol. The solution is applied to the underarms last thing at night, but it may make the skin sore because it is acidic. People who started the treatment on a nightly basis found that it was so successful they could gradually reduce the frequency to once weekly.

For the hands and feet tablets containing atropine can be quite useful. The drug slows the activity of the glands but, because it involves the whole body, there may be side effects. Stomack upsets dry throats and mouth and blurred vision are the most common problems.

For intractable problems surgery may be recommended: skin in the armpit containing the largest concentration of sweat glands may be removed or, alternatively, the nerve supply to the armpits may be severed. Dr Pembroke emphasizes that these options are a last resort.

Finally a technique known as iontophoresis may work for sufferers from particularly sweaty hands and feet. A low-level electric current is passed into the skin which, magically, plugs the glands and cuts the sweat production.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

The cruel nightmare of a family kidnapping

Parents snatching their own children break no English law. Frances Gibb looks at a Bill about to go before the Lords that will make this a criminal offence

Wendy Hole

Graham was four years old when his father abducted him from his mother. He and his father had been on holiday together. When the two weeks were up, they simply didn't return. His mother Jean Burt, by then divorced and separated from her husband for three years, remembers making routine checks of the hospitals and airlines in case of accident. But she had a nagging suspicion of the truth. "I feared the worst within the first five minutes", she recalls.

It was just over a year before she met her son again, and then in the company of his father and present wife; and 20 months passed before she had him home with her. "The best way to describe the feeling is that it feels as if someone very close to you had died, but worse, because you know that somewhere that child is alive but you don't know what is happening to him."

Her experience of suddenly having her child seized from her care without warning, being faced with tracking down his whereabouts and going through the long, painful and difficult process of securing his return, is more and more common.

Child-stealing – abduction of a child by one parent against the other's will – is on the increase: a tragic spin-off of the climbing divorce rate, one in which the child becomes a pawn in a physical and psychological tug-of-war between divorced or separated spouses and is snatched from the custodial parent, often to be taken abroad, beyond the jurisdiction of this country.

It is a phenomenon that our laws are particularly ill-equipped to deal with. At present, there is no criminal offence of kidnapping one's own child. English law deals with breaches of court custody or wardship care orders as contempt, which carries statutory penalties, including imprisonment, which are rarely enforced. Criminal remedies against parents are not available.

There is a strong tide of opinion in favour of a change in the law, however. This week in the House of Lords, the Crown, in a test action, challenged a recent Court of Appeal ruling confirming that parents could not, in law, kidnap their own children. The Court of Appeal last November quashed convictions for kidnapping and contempt of court in the case of a father, Mr Ian Daily, who twice snatched his daughter from his former wife and took the child off to New Zealand. It was thought to be the first time in legal history that a father had been convicted of kidnapping his own child.

The judges held there was no such offence as kidnapping a child under 14 by a parent. Setting aside a two-year jail sentence, they said Parliament had never intended that a mother or father should be prosecuted for child-stealing. The case, they said, was a serious example of a deliberate flouting of a High Court order by a father. But although judges had wide jurisdiction to punish for such action, the father should never have been convicted of kidnapping.

As the law lords consider their judgment, the Government is backing a private member's Bill which has now received its third reading in the Commons. This creates a new offence, carrying up to seven years imprisonment on conviction. A parent, guardian, custodian or father of an illegitimate child who takes or sends that child outside the country without the consent of the other parent or guardian, or of the court which made the custody or care order, will have committed the offence. Parents who snatch children in defiance of a court order and remain in this country will still be dealt with by contempt orders. But the Bill brings parents who abduct abroad, before or after a court custody order, within the criminal law for the first time.

"Child stealing is a tragic spin-off of the climbing divorce rate, in which the child is a pawn"

Both the Lords' decision and the Bill's passage are being closely watched by victims of child-stealing and in particular by those members of Children Abroad, a self-help group that – prompted by her own experience – Jean Burt helped to set up in Keighley, Yorkshire, to advise parents in similar plights.

No official statistics exist, but the group estimates that from the 100 cases they hear in about a year, there could be as many as 500 throughout the country. In France, they point out, the ministry of justice has a record of 1,000 cases a year and that is not thought to be comprehensive.

In America there is a rising incidence of "child snatching". There are now estimated to be up to 100,000 a year usually perpetuated by fathers who have lost custody of their children. A recent study estimated that seven out of ten children snatched from their homes are never seen again by the parent left behind.

Children Abroad now has nearly 80 members and some 150 cases on their books where parents are still trying to retrieve a child who has been snatched or to prevent a "re-snatch". One mother has faced this three times.

Members – two-thirds mothers, one-third fathers – have varying experiences, but common threads occur. Sheer vindictiveness can be one motive; disputes over access; a thwarted desire for custody; a belief, common among mothers, in the right to care of the child; and blackmail, with a view to stopping divorce proceedings or improving financial settlements. Mark Burt, Mrs Burt's second husband, and a co-founder of the group, says these blackmail cases are among the most distressing, with children forced to write pleading letters and often denied the replies.

Snatching often occurs without warning. When it is the father, the snatch is usually during a period of access. Physical violence is rare unless it is a second or third occasion when the other parent is on guard. When it is the mother, child-stealing often occurs when the husband is at work. One husband returned home to find his child and half the furniture gone, Mr Burt says.

It was the obstacles the Burts faced that made them want to share their experiences. Only through endless questioning of friends, relatives and colleagues, did they finally discover young Graham had been taken to Kuwait. Months of "battering" bureaucracy followed, trying to get the police, Foreign Office and embassy officials to take action. "No one wants to know. They say it is a private dispute", Mr Burt says. An attempt to bring criminal proceedings in the Kuwait courts failed because although kidnapping a child is a criminal act there, the offence originated in England and there needed to be a comparable offence in Kuwaiti jursidiction for proceedings to succeed. In the end civil proceedings, at a cost of £11,000, secured Graham's return.

They now know how to deal with the system that, for instance, enables a duty judge to be found 24 hours a day to make the child a ward of court, which facilitates Home Office administrative procedures such as port stops. And consulates now have new guidelines encouraging them to use their powers to help in such cases by, for example, doing welfare reports on the child in their country.

But had the Child Abduction Bill been law, they might have got Graham back in six rather than 20 months. The Bill is set to receive Royal Assent in three months. Mr Timothy Wood, Conservative MP for Stevenage and co-sponsor of the Bill, said: "It will enable parents in a number of circumstances to do something. At present if they are taken abroad, it's often years before they are returned, causing another major disruption for the child and forcing the parent to take expensive civil proceedings".

When a criminal offence has been committed, parents will be able to pursue the child through extradition treaties, where they exist; and where they do not, countries such as Kuwait, where there is a similar criminal offence, may be more sympathetic, he said.

Another advantage is that the police will be more willing to take action; and the cost of the prosecution in time and money will fall to them, Mr Burt says. Relatives too may be less willing to help the "snatcher" with a criminal offence hanging over their heads. "But we chiefly hope it will be a deterrent. Of course it will help us get the children back more quickly; but we'd rather they were never taken in the first place."

Surrogate sanctions

From Dr James Appleyard, Kent and Canterbury Hospitals

Your article (Wednesday Page, April 25) featuring a beautiful surrogate baby made compelling reading. It highlighted the immense gratification that baby Amanda gave to her "adoptive" parents' desires to have a child of their own. However your correspondent glossed over the more complex ethical, social and legal issues raised.

Fundamentally such "triangular" arrangements involve a change in the motive for creating children from a desire to have them for their own sake to a desire on the surrogate mother's part to have them because they can provide some other benefit. Even though it may be said to be an altruistic attempt to bring happiness to an infertile couple, the child is still being "used" by the surrogate. To sanction the use and treatment of human beings as a means of achieving other ends instead of as ends in themselves, is to accept an ethic with a tragic past and establish a precedent in this country with a dangerous future. In the United States it has been found that few surrogates will volunteer their services for altruistic reasons alone and the ban on the payment of fees beyond medical expenses has in effect stopped the practice in some states.

Surrogate arrangements exert pressures upon the normal family structure and society as there is an intrusion by the third adult into the marital community. The adverse long term psychological and social effects on the child are predictable, *inter alia*, from the asymmetry of the relationship the adopting parents have towards the child. As evidence of this accumulates, it would seem that securing the welfare of children (and thus our future generations) should take precedence over sanctioning arrangements which may satisfy the desires of individuals or pairs of adults who are able to afford to buy a child for themselves.

Plotted history

From Ann Pilling, 57 St John Street, Oxford

It is a pity that the time warp (a device beloved by writers of fantasy, and no doubt by those of the new "interactive fiction") does not go into reverse, and catapult some great writers of the past into the present, for the new possibilities for their books are clearly endless (Monday Page April 30).

Take Jane Austen's silly little plots. Emma no longer has to marry that prig, Mr Knightley, for if she does "the adventure ends here". Now she can go back to 33, and reconsider Mr Elton, or skip ahead to 69, order a carriage and pair, and go up to Town, for the season.

Then there is *Hamlet* ("How now! a rat?"). If he doesn't fancy making a stab at Polonius through the arras he can always go to 57, and have a quick word with Ophelia.

"I accept," writes Colin Kapp, "that the spoken word and printed page have served story tellers well, but I get the feeling that computers will serve them even better." A little further on, Richard Gollner, who'd "love to be Alice", talks nostalgically about that "old technology, the book". This is fascinating, but also slightly alarming to those engaged in trying to get the young to read. "There is hardly a major publishing house which is not exploring the potential of the field", Alan Franks informs us. But have they considered any implications beyond the commercial ones?

I am glad to have read *The Hobbit* (100,000 computerized copies sold) in its boring old original form, glad, also, to have read C. S. Lewis's *Chronicles of Narnia*, for these too, we are told, are now being sized up for their computer potential. One wonders what computerized classics will do to the reading habit? Increase the sales of the original? Or are straight books a thing of the past?

TALKBACK

Teacher's defence

From G. C. Peiser, The Wildernesse School, Seal Hollow Road, Sevenoaks

As a headmaster of 22 years' experience, I cannot allow Mr John Pearman's attack on teachers (Monday Page, May 7) to pass unchallenged. Teachers are poorly paid compared with their university colleagues, who have entered other professions, and it is essential that high quality staff are recruited. Why should teachers' families and dependents be made to suffer?

It has been my experience that the majority of teachers give devotedly of their time and energy to enable their pupils to have the best possible educational experience and make considerable financial sacrifices to travel to Saturday fixtures, evening parents' meetings and so on.

Teachers are not lightly stirred into action but on this occasion they have been too aggressively provoked by the minister.

Libraries lose a friend

COMMENT

I had always innocently considered *librarians* my *friends*. I disapproved of fellow writers who, during the campaign for Public Lending Right, accused the public library system of "*stealing*" their *books and* lending them free. But I felt there to be a sort of unwritten contract between librarians and me. I would provide high class *fiction and non-fiction for them* to lend in the quixotic British way to (in my case) some 80,000 readers a year, on the understanding that they would buy *sufficient copies of* my work to perform this extraordinary service efficiently. We needed each other, I thought.

But now I am not so sure. In the last 15 years, words that I had taken for granted were part of the vocabulary of any responsible librarian, words like "quality" and "balanced intake" and "education", have become regarded as the language of élitist reaction. Instead, the fashionable vocabulary is "service to community", "user-friendly" and – more sinister in its muddle-headed sub-Marxism – "free access to the sources of information".

Let me analyze this last phrase, much bandied about at a librarians' conference at which I was recently an uneasy and increasingly mutinous listener. What it ought to mean – what it genuinely does mean to some librarians – is that the libraries are now providing useful pamphlets on the Rent Act and the like. So far, so good: it is surely right that people should know they can drop into their library for this purpose. But the phrase, and the principle, are not infinitely extensible. And when I hear books – novels, biographies, history, philosophy, poetry – all lumped together under the heading "sources of information", and when I hear the good old concept of free access perverted to mean that no one should pay *for anything in any form (except* the poor writer, who pays with his time, energy and life) then I know that I am in the presence not just of people who are no *friends of mine but, what is far* worse, people who have no coherent view of their function.

Arguably it is a Good Thing for libraries to lend copies of hardback, specialist books which most library users could genuinely not afford. By the same token, it would seem to follow that it is not the libraries' function to provide lavish supplies of mass circulation paperbacks that are freely available down the road for the price of six cups of coffee, two-and-a-half Tube fares to Brent Cross or one eighteenth of a modest meal out for two. Of course libraries have a duty to pay some attention to the mass taste of ratepayers (code for the provision of light romances to old age pensioners). But this must *not* mean cutting back on less popular works of some literary distinction – the basis of the whole grand edifice of the free library system.

It is extremely unfortunate that reduction in library budgets in the last few years has *coincided with a time when* concepts of what a library might do for local inhabitants have become increasingly visionary. Inspired by computer technology and by a heady idea of the library as a power for good among hitherto unimpressed levels of the population ("'Give me your poor, your huddled masses' . . . and let us ban Enid Blyton and *Little Black Sambo*") all too many librarians do not seem to have stopped to reflect that resources are finite, that they cannot do everything and must therefore, (a) make choices and (b) not lose sight of older values while pursuing new ones.

Meanwhile, some talk with messianic energy about the need to "get people who don't want to read into the libraries. To this end, all sorts of fund-consuming ploys have been dreamed up – pop records, softwear, soft toys among the (vetted, guaranteed non-racist, non-sexist) children's literature.

Herbert Spencer, the nineteenth century political philosopher, predicted that one of the many undesirable results of state intervention in life would be free dissemination of pulp literature. Even that far-sighted cynic did not foresee that the pulp on offer might not be literature of any description.

Gillian Tindall

A great
is happ
at Ford

at deal
pening

In the last six months we've introduced ten new models, three new engines and we've lowered some of our prices.

Not only that, your local Ford dealer can now give you a great deal more than you imagined.

So come on in. Summer's on the way and there's never been a better time to talk to your dealer, try the new Fords and get a great deal.

Ford cares about quality. 



DIARY

And another union rift

The Oxford Union is involved in an acrimonious debate over the disclosure that Walter Perry, steward of the union's social facilities, has been given early retirement with a reported £9,000 pay-off. The figure, leaked to the student newspaper *Tributary*, caused much dispute, and was settled only after the Union drafted in barrister don Harvey McGregor of New College. Perry's departure follows disagreements over management and the hiring of staff, and leaves the Union's already shaky finances even more enfeebled. I am told the Union now hopes to raise £20,000 by auctioning some of its most valuable antiquarian books, part of the charitable trust set up to preserve the debating and library functions. No doubt a few well-chosen words will be said about that as well.

Choose-a-muse

The leisurely progress of James Fenton and Peter Levi towards the winning post of the Oxford poetry professorship – "No, no, after you, old chap" – may yet be halted. Jobbing poet and clerihew addict Gavin Ewart has entered the race. He is being nominated by author Tim Heald, doubtless smelling in the Fenton-Levi carve-up the sort of cosy conspiracy exposed in his *Networks* book on old boy connexions. Ewart launches his campaign here with two new clerihews which I commissioned yesterday:

I do believe I
would be as good as Peter Levi
and I'm certainly bent on
out Fentoning James Fenton

and the rider:

if the Muse
could choose
(from the greater and the lesser)
would she actually want *a poetry professor?*

Pill poppet

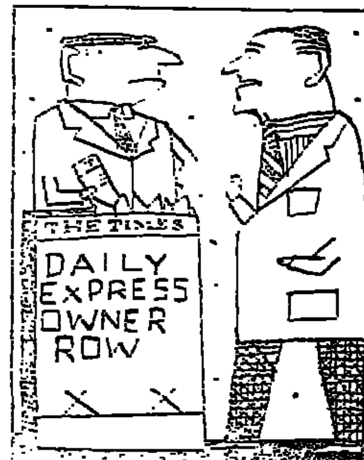
BBC *Breakfast Time* viewers were shocked yesterday by unlined Selina Scott's confession that she was taking pills "to slow down the aging process." Where on earth had she got such an idea? They might have guessed: Barbara Cartland filled her head with SOD (Super Oxide Dismutase) during an interview at her Hatfield mansion, mercifully never shown.

○ **The GLC, patron of the minority, ethnic, proletarian arts, has finally succumbed. It has commissioned a work for its open-air concert at the Crystal Palace Bowl on July 29 by composer Derek Bourgeois.**

Troops in

An unlikely tale comes from Belfast where I hear that a Sinn Fein councillor, Alex Maskey, has complained about the absence of British Army vehicles in Catholic West Belfast. This seeming about-face from a supporter of "Troops Out" is explained by the fact that because the army does not escort Post Office vans into the area, three offices have closed through lack of funds.

BARRY FANTONI



'It must be serious. There's no bid yet from Maxwell'

Coles to Jordan

My Whitehall mole tells me that John Coles, Mrs Thatcher's Foreign Office private secretary to Number Ten, is about to be named successor to Sir Alan Urwick, Britain's high-flying ambassador in Jordan. I understand that Sir Alan – who was recently knighted during the Queen's most dangerous royal tour there – has sought the Jordanian government's agreement to the move. There is unlikely to be any difficulty: King Husain is a known admirer of Mrs Thatcher, and will probably be delighted to have her protégé in Amman. Sir Alan, I suspect, will be stalling the handover. He is tipped to move on to Cairo where I am told the incumbent ambassador, Sir Michael Weir, is refusing to budge until he retires next February. Also about to retire is our man in Baghdad, John Moberley, who seems destined to spend his years with Palestinian refugees: I am told the Government is lobbying to get him the job as Secretary-General of the UN Relief and Works Agency.

In common

Ken Livingstone, flush with the success of the Thames barrier's queenly inauguration, has admitted a change of heart about the Royal Family. When reminded by biographer John Carvel at the ICA discussion yesterday about his earlier anti-royalist stand – including the comment that he couldn't see "what the public gets from Princess Anne" – Ken said he had made a crucial mistake: "I based my opinion of her on what I heard from the media."

PHS

Death with dignity for the GLC

After sailing through its committee stage in the Commons this week (despite the Heath-Gilmour ripple effect) the bill to cancel the 1985 Greater London Council elections looks unstoppable. The growing certainty of demise will not, however, stop the County Hall jobs boom. During April the GLC placed advertisements for at least a score of well-paid jobs that can scarcely last longer than the next 12 months, and the recruitment goes on.

It has sought to recruit special policy advisers (nuclear) and special policy researchers (arts and recreation), a research assistant for employment and welfare, a clerk to the women's committee, a "senior policy implementation officer", a head of road safety, transport planners and, fittingly, a senior recruitment officer (£12,444 – £14,076).

There is a budget provision for some 1,500 extra staff to be taken on this year, plus staff for the Greater London Enterprise Board and for the multitude of voluntary organizations supported by County Hall. And there is room for more. Underspending was one of the Labour administration's problems last year; this year there will again be difficulties in exhausting the huge budget provided by London's ratepayers.

Is it a scandal? It certainly seems that way to the Tory borough leaders who are relishing less and less sorting out the mess of London government. To them here is evidence of Labour's wish to pull down the pillars of County Hall as they leave behind a trail of expensive commitments, contracts to be paid off and an army of permanent staff entitled to redundancy terms.

Yet expensive though these new jobs are and will be, they were clearly promised by Labour's 1984-85 budget. Indeed, what is surprising is just how little disruption and terminal extravagance there is in the GLC, despite its impending demise.

Those new jobs, say Labour councillors, are needed because the GLC show is still on the road; there is a rosy belief that the Lords could still delay abolition. Illtyd Harrington, deputy leader of the council, says the abolition battle has given the GLC such "credibility" that nothing must be allowed to mar its role of a democratic authority responsibly administering transport and the other services.

Peter Seers, of the 17,000-strong GLC Staff Association, says colleagues may be scanning other councils' vacancy lists, but there is no despair, even in such areas as architecture or planning.

Labour's official line is that its propaganda may work; only the passage into law of the so-called Paving Bill cancelling next year's GLC election will convince them there are only months to go. Even then "responsibility" will rule until the signing and sealing of the abolition statute itself – sometime next spring on current timetables.

Meanwhile there is not much evidence of financial jiggery-pokery. The controversial Greater London Enterprise Board has been well funded for 1984-85; it has enough money to make a series of land and property purchases; because of its particular legal status (a company wholly owned by GLC councillors), unravelling it would be difficult.

There are suggestions that grants to voluntary organizations should be bumped up to provide financial security for several years. In other words the lesbians and ethnic and community arts bodies might be given money to buy property or in other ways to salt money away for use in that bleak post-GLC future.

Labour's frontbench councillors, the committee chairmen especially, are well aware that they face a dilemma. Do they so organize their administration over the next few months that it is simple to continue once the GLC goes (and so benefit the service consumers), or do they try to make the lines of management impossible to unravel? The South Bank arts complex could be prepared for hiving off as a unit under its director, Lord Birkett; the GLC's historic buildings administration is already prepared for its quangoid future as an independent entity: do they allow officers to proceed along these lines elsewhere?

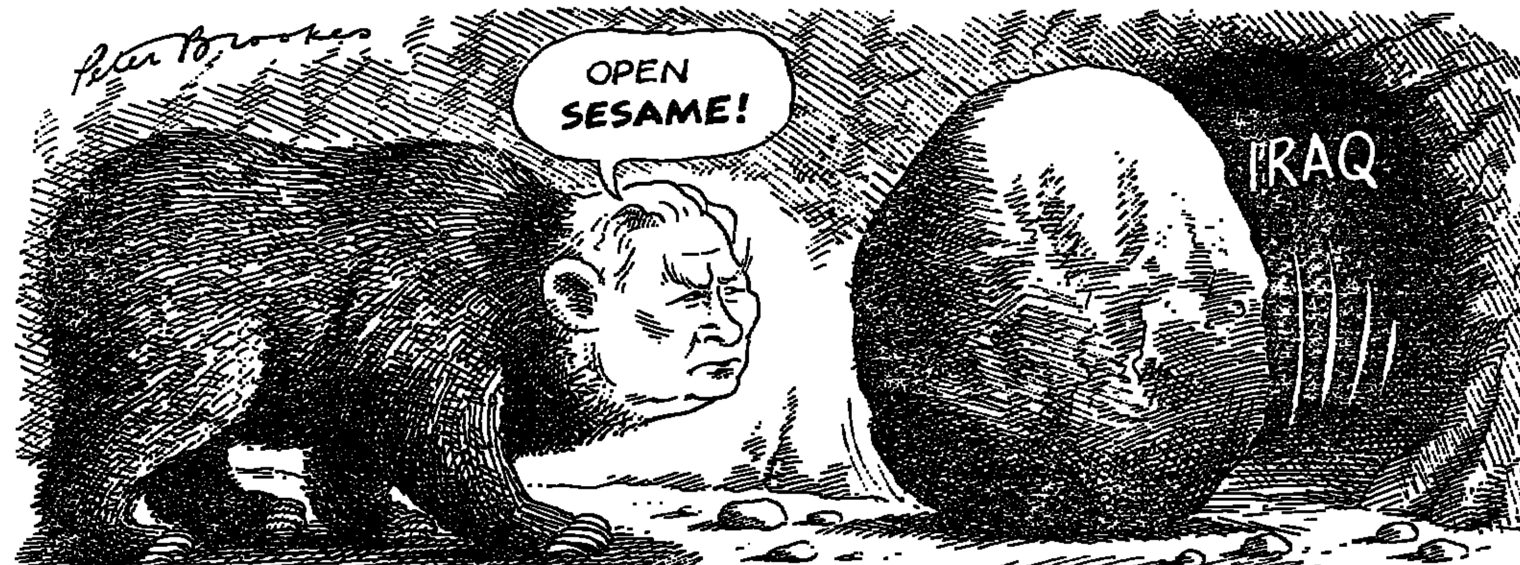
Labour's sense of responsibility has limits. Within months the GLC will begin putting together a budget for 1985-86 to be used by the group of borough councillors who will take over in 1985. That budget will be "rate-capped". The finance chairman, John McDonnell, could play an infinite variety of games with the figures, each of which could make life very tricky indeed for Westminster's Lady Porter, Peter Bowness of Croydon, or the other Tory leaders. They will be caught between government ministers and ratepayers expecting rate reductions, and Londoners demanding unchanged fire cover, blue plaques, mended potholes and functioning traffic lights.

Alan Greengross, leader of the Tory group at the GLC, sees the months from February to May next year as the most difficult. By February the Government should have pushed the abolition bill through. What then would Labour have to lose?

The answer is that a few extreme-left Labour councillors might want disruption and administrative mayhem. But they do not include Ken Livingstone. Whatever else the Labour leader is (a new biography gives him the visage of a saint), he is an ambitious politician who has always had an eye on the next rung. His future lies in national politics. He is unlikely to wish to see Labour adopt a nihilist line. Next spring there will be pyrotechnics at County Hall, but no arson.

David Walker

Edward Mortimer urges a more realistic approach to the Saddam regime



Why Moscow must be denied an open door to Iraq

The Russians are back in favour in Baghdad. Iraq's pro-Soviet tilt has become clearly visible to diplomats there only in the last two or three months, but it is the predictable response to a pro-Iraqi tilt in Soviet policy that was already clear last summer and probably goes back to the Iraqi defeat at Khorramshahr in May 1982, which led to Iraq's retreat from Iranian territory. It is said the Russians sought to dissuade Iran from carrying the war across the frontier. Rebuffed by the ayatollahs, they then made up their minds to avert an Iraqi collapse. That summer a Soviet military mission, led by a major-general, visited Iraq. The flow of Soviet weapons, already resumed on a small scale in May 1981, began in earnest in January 1983.

At that point Moscow may still have hoped to keep in with both sides. But by summer 1983, after the destruction of the communist Tudeh party in Iran, it must have been clear that Iraq offered better opportunities. Last August two Iraqi-Soviet oil agreements, of unspecified content, were signed in Moscow, and in October Iraq received a visit from Yakov Ryabov, chairman of the Soviet State Committee on External Economic Relations. This 55-year-old senior official replaced an elderly nonentity as Soviet co-chairman of the Soviet-Iraqi joint economic commission. That body met in Baghdad in March and prepared several major economic projects which were finalized during the visit to Moscow last month of Iraq's deputy prime minister and economic overlord, Taha Yasin Ramadan.

Tariq Aziz, the foreign minister and one of President Saddam Husain's closest advisers, confirmed to me last week that these projects include the development of the oil fields in the south (where Iraq's main untapped reserves are located), the construction of a "huge electrical complex", and a nuclear hydraulic plant in the north. Together, he said, they were worth a billion dollars, and they were to be financed by "very easy loans" on which Iraq would not have to start payments until after the projects were completed, and for the first three or four years the interest payable would be cut by half. The arms purchases, too, involved "easy and satisfactory" credit arrangements though they were not, he emphasized, outright grants.

Moscow is thus making a sizable investment in the future of Iraq's Baathist regime, and thereby is acquiring a major role in several key sectors of Iraq's economy. The political corollary is that relations are back on the cordial basis which characterized them before 1974.

What does all this mean for the West? Not, or not yet, that Iraq is turning its back on us. France, of course, remains a trusted and valued supporter. More generally, western firms are seen as best able to supply many of Iraq's needs, on strictly commercial terms. But Iraq does tend to see western countries other than France as hostile, because Iran is fighting with weapons mainly of western origin, and because its war effort is financed mainly by oil sales to the West, with Japan the worst culprit. And even if the West were genuinely neutral, its performance would still compare unfavourably with Moscow's from the Iraqi point of view.

Does it matter? Not, perhaps, if you think Iraq is going to lose the war anyway. But that looks rather less plausible than it did a year ago. Since then, it is true, Iran has been able to occupy small pockets of Iraqi territory, the most significant being the Majnoon islands in the marshes north-east of Basra, captured in a surprise attack in February. Iraq's use of chemical weapons in this battle – still stalwartly denied by Mr Aziz for the record, but conceded by other officials in private – was widely interpreted as a sign of desperation. But it seems to have been done on a small scale, and confined to the marsh area where Iraq could not deploy tanks. It may have been undertaken as an experiment, and to prove Iraq's determination to resist the Iranian "human waves" by whatever methods necessary, however distasteful.

But the front as a whole has held steady now for nearly two years. Iraq's superiority in equipment is clearer than ever, and Soviet support effectively guarantees that it will continue. Iraqi soldiers have proved they are willing to fight and die in defence of Iraqi soil. The Shia revolt on which Khomeini once counted has not occurred. The Baath regime has given proof not only of its ruthlessness (if that were ever in doubt) but also of its non-sectarian character and – by Middle Eastern standards anyway – of its incorruptibility. There are no stories of Baath leaders having Swiss bank accounts or luxury villas abroad. Some officials caught taking bribes have been executed.

There is no question, Mr Aziz assured me, of the rapprochement with Moscow leading to a reconciliation with the Iraqi communists, who "bear the responsibility of their short-sightedness and their negative attitude towards the revolution and the leadership". Only among the Kurds of the north does the regime feel the need to extend its popular base, and it has high hopes of doing so through an agreement with the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, led by Jalal Talabani.

The end of the war with Iran is not in sight, but the assumption that Iraq must crack sooner or later is not self-evident. Austerity has replaced ostentatious public works. Arab neighbours give financial help with growing impatience, but have little choice other than to continue. But Iraq's own oil exports should begin to pick up this summer with an increase in the capacity of the Turkish pipeline from 850,000 to 980,000 barrels a day. Even more important is the planned link to the pipeline which crosses Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea. This should enable Iraq to start exporting another 1,500,000 barrels a day some time next year, or at the latest in 1986. Another million barrels a day could flow through the proposed new pipeline to Aqaba in Jordan, if the Americans agree to finance it.

If Iraq does survive the war it will emerge transformed: leaner, tougher, the only Arab nation to have held its own in battle for longer than five weeks. It will not be quite as nasty as Khomeini's Iran, but it will be hardly less formidable, and it is likely to feel it owes nothing to the West.

Yet there are people in Iraq who hope that the regime will then feel confident enough to allow a greater degree of internal freedom. Last week's symposium on The Gulf (organized jointly by the University of Basra and London's Arab Research Centre), at which Iraqi academics were encouraged to debate publicly with prominent Nasserist intellectuals from Egypt and with recently retired senior officials of the US State Department, even answering back to Mr Aziz himself who spoke at four of the sessions, was regarded by many as an unprecedented and potentially promising event – as was the friendly treatment given to Dr Hana Batatu, a Palestinian expert on Iraqi politics now working in the US and hitherto regarded by the regime as a public enemy.

It is hard to see Iraq ever becoming a liberal democracy, but one can perhaps imagine it evolving into a more enlightened despotism, especially if the West gives it slightly less grudging support now as it struggles to hold back the tide of fanaticism. Iraq may have been the aggressor in 1980 – the point is arguable, the provocation was extreme – but unquestionably it is now only Iran that wants to continue the war. Iraq may be a very imperfect representative of modern civilization, but what is at issue now between it and Iran is whether human civilization is something to which one should even aspire.

Hongkong: a democratic challenge to Peking

The House of Commons will finally debate the future of Hongkong next week. Seven residents of the colony are now in London to persuade it that the liberties of 5.3 million people must be protected after China resumes sovereignty in 1997.

The bedrock issue for the people of Hongkong is how to ensure that their free-wheeling way of life remains intact. China, for its part, must avoid a panic in a region that will soon be its most prosperous, especially because such a panic would further alarm Taiwan, which is next on Peking's list for reunification.

What worries the seven-man delegation of Hongkong notables now visiting Britain is that MPs, if not Foreign Office diplomats, are taking China's promises at their face value. The problem is that few in Hongkong believe the Chinese will fulfil their guarantees.

The delegates are concentrating on the final London-Peking settlement which may be drafted late this month and must be signed, to a Chinese-imposed deadline, in September. This settlement, the delegation insists, must be so tightly woven that China cannot renege. Only explicit provisions for post-1997 education, press freedom, public security and the like will begin to restore confidence in the future of the territory.

One of the delegates represents Meeting Point, an action group composed of young businessmen and professionals. Its chairman, Lao Nikeung, told me last week in Hongkong, "If I were in China, they would have crushed me already. But with things as they are – *our* prosperity, *their* need not to frighten Taiwan – we have a chance to get real guarantees and form a government so that we can stand up to them."

Most of Hongkong's inhabitants are refugees, or the children of refugees, from 30 years of Maoist deprivation of human and civil rights. Nothing unsettles such men more than article 35 of the new Chinese constitution which stipulates freedom of speech, press, assembly, association, and demonstration. None of these freedoms exists, except when it suits the Party.

It is not merely the educated classes who worry about 1997 and after. Eighty per cent of those who responded to a poll in Shamshuipo (West), the district represented by urban councillor Li Chikyuet, one of the London delegates, fear that despite its promises, Peking will intervene in Hongkong's affairs after the British depart.

At the official *Ta Kong Pao*, the communist newspaper which transmits Peking's voice to the colony, one of its editors, Lee Tsungyee, admitted to me that "a question of confidence exists. But we have completely reversed 32 years of leftism (Dengist code for Maoism). We know that what has happened in China makes communism look bad."

Down the road is Xinhua, the Chinese news agency, and Peking's unofficial embassy, the only Hongkong building over which the Red Flag invariably flies. Its vice-director, Li Chuwen, was equally conciliatory. "We are trying to create a China conducive to capitalism. This should inspire confidence in Hongkong. You must look at the big picture. Never mind the ripples." The "ripples" I had just asked him about were the recent campaign to combat "spiritual pollution" among intellectuals and the wave of executions which since late August has cost more than 6,000 lives.

Perhaps the most impressive of new guarantees recently given by the Chinese, particularly because its reliability can be checked soon, was made to urban councillor Li Chikyuet two weeks ago in Peking. He was assured that when the National People's Congress drafts China's new Fundamental Law or mini-constitution within three years, Hongkong residents, perhaps from the Legislative or Executive Councils, and even expert expatriates, will participate.

But guarantees, no matter how watertight, are not enough for the seven Hongkong delegates, or for the millions whose hopes and demands they represent. What they want is an elected representative government, already in place at some local levels.

If this comes to pass – and China claims that it wants it to – Peking will be in a dilemma. It has already stated that whoever is elected as mayor or governor must secure China's approval, even though he will be a resident of Hongkong. But if Peking turns down a duly elected candidate it will be a fatal first move. On the other hand, can a regime which warns Tibetan yak-herders not to read Sartre possibly keep its hands off 5.3m volatile, entrepreneurial ex-colonials?

Jonathan Mirsky

David Watt

Can Prior finesse the Forum?

There are two ways of looking at the New Ireland Forum's report. If you read it like an Ulsterman you see all the old "green" codology tumbling from the page. The nationalist arrogance, the awful sanctimoniousness, the historical fantasizing are all there, as usual, and in good measure.

Moreover it is ultimately a thoroughly self-serving document, whose recommendations are intended to promote the unification of the Irish island under conditions which, in the long run and in spite of all the proposed safeguards, would place the predominant influence where Republicans believe it rightly belongs – namely with the majority of the whole.

If you read the report as a citizen of the Irish Republic, you see it in a very different light. You compare it with past declarations on this subject from the political parties of the republic and marvel at how far they have agreed (*pace* Mr Charles Haughey) to modify the old shibboleths. The public admission that unification can come about only by negotiated consent and that Irish nationalism has in the past "underestimated the full dimension of the Unionist identity and ethos" is a giant step forward.

The promise that a new Ireland would need a new constitution based on religious and cultural diversity implies, although it does not explicitly state, that the specifically "Catholic" clauses of the present constitution of the republic, including the recently approved anti-abortion amendment, would be thrown out (presumably over the furious opposition of the church hierarchy).

Both these readings are legitimate and true in their way. Unionists are entitled to be sceptical about the report because, when all the wrapping is taken off, it still enshrines an aspiration that most of them instinctively reject.

But the fact remains that it also contains sentiments and proposals that even five years ago would not have had the faintest chance of securing official consensus in Dublin. The question for the government in Westminster is whether this second (Republican) truth really changes anything, given that the first (Unionist) truth remains immutable.

The starting point of the calculation, naturally, is to decide if Northern Protestant opposition to unification really is adamant under any terms the Republic might offer now, and in the foreseeable future. My own impression is that it is. Of course the Protestant population is not monolithic – the countryside being less anti-Catholic than the towns, for instance, and the middle classes less so than the working class. But one generalization is true. When the Forum admits that the South has underestimated the toughness and cultural obduracy of the Unionist mind it does not go nearly far enough. Even English public opinion has no real conception of what it means.

Protestant Ulster, collectively speaking, has had a siege mentality for more than 300 years, and everything that has happened in the last 15 years has simply hardened it still further. Like the Quebecois, the Basques or the Afrikaners, the Northern Protestants define themselves by their separateness. Such people are bound to be deeply suspicious of newly-minted Republican promises to respect their way of life. They are not about to risk the slightest sacrifice of their own cultural integrity in order to restore the "historic integrity" (again, the Forum phrase) of Ireland. Indeed, they will violently resist any steps which look like a serious threat to it.

This completely rules out, from their point of view, at least two of the Forum's options – the unitary state and the joint authority. The first sweeps away the border which they regard as the only real defence against eventual assimilation; the second, by putting them partly under Republican authority, is (if it is more than purely cosmetic) a thick end of an even thicker wedge. The third (confederal) idea looks far the most promising as a long-term bet for it would allow the Protestants to devolve upwards to a joint Belfast-Dublin authority only so much of their sovereignty (say, in foreign relations) as they are ready to give up at any given time. The snag here is that it presupposes an independent Ulster capable of taking such decisions – and an independent Ulster (while by no means unacceptable to Mr Ian Paisley) is unacceptable both to the official Unionists and the Catholic minority.

If I am right that these are the basic views of the majority of the Protestants, then the shift in Republican views which the Forum had signalled does not actually help much. In fact it makes matters more difficult by putting Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues in the dangerous position of either trying to coerce the Protestants or of appearing more unreasonably oppressive than ever to the Catholic minority. Of course it is a crucial part of the Forum's case that this is not a Hobson's choice. Britain, they believe, can and must resort to coercion.

The "can" part – now elaborated by the Irish Prime Minister – depends on a distinction between handing over any sovereignty to Dublin (which would transgress the "consent" clause of the 1973 Northern Ireland Constitution Act) and an arbitrary but, in Dr FitzGerald's view, entirely legal decision of the British government that Dublin should have a "say" in running the province.

The "must" element is, in effect, a claim that unaltered direct rule from Westminster is now more dangerous than the alternatives. The gains of Sinn Fein in the North and the decline of the moderate-Republican SDLP portend, it is said, a complete breakdown of Catholic consent unless something is done to give the Catholic minority an outlet for their aspirations.

The signs are that Mr Prior, the Northern Ireland Secretory, and even the Prime Minister accept at least a major part of the "must" case, especially now that the Forum report has heightened Catholic expectations. Some gesture has to be made. The coercion of the Protestants is quite another matter. Even leaving aside Conservative Party calculations and the blandishments of Mr Enoch Powell (whose recent discovery and proclamation of Mrs Thatcher's unexampled wisdom and even genius is, no doubt, significent), the notion that the British government could risk the serious alienation of the Protestant majority, with all that might entail in terms of increased tension and violence, is simply not possible.

In these circumstances the only conceivable finesse open to the Cabinet is some variant of the FitzGerald formula – that is, a limited strengthening of London-Dublin cooperation on Ulster (perhaps with some new parliamentary dimension), which can just about be sold in the Falls Road as a bit of "joint authority" but which can be presented in East Belfast as leaving the realities pretty much as they are. It is a pretty paltry option but it is about as much as responsible politicians looking for lesser evils in the real world of Ulster can get out of the Forum report; and perhaps, with luck, that may be better than nothing.

Philip Howard

Cathedrals with aspirations

I am worried about Gloucester Cathedral. No doubt the old heap can stand it, having stood up to heavier burdens for nine centuries. The worry is whether it should be included in the premier division of the top 10 British cathedrals.

Grading cathedrals is more fun than *Desert Island Discs*. For one thing, the music is better. For another thing, you do not have to put up with Roy Plomley asking fulsome questions in that plummy voice.

Of course this High Victorian passion for making lists is subjective and silly. Such aesthetic judgements depend on a great many variables, from the weather and the company in which you visit the cathedral, to whether they are singing a Matthew Passion or performing an Alternative Service, with your next-door neighbour grabbing you and giving you a greeting of peace. (As it happens, they were both doing both when I last visited Gloucester). Cathedral-collecting is not objective; but it is fun.

For the purpose of the game, I think we have to include abbeys. It is tempting not to, for the relief of being able to leave out Westminster. But not ruined abbeys; for if you include them, a sense sublime of Tintern is a strong contender for the first division; and Fountains and St Andrews are dark and ruinous horses.

One man's misericord is another man's postern. But I take it that there can be no argument about the first nine of the top 10. Lincoln and Durham, of course; York and Canterbury; Exeter and Salisbury; St Paul's – even though the great bubble dome is fenced in by modern matchboxes, it is still the pride and joy of London; and I do not see how you can exclude Westminster Abbey, dammit.

That makes eight. Common sense and logic insist that Ely takes ninth place: that octagon lantern, rising over the Fens like the crow's nest of a stately sailing ship, gives Ely one of the top three distant cathedral prospects in Britain; the other two being, naturally, Lincoln and Durham.

Sorry, Norwich. The heart bleeds for the misericords of Beverley and the leaves of Southwell. Tough, Winchester and Wells. It is too long since I visited Lichfield; but I remember that tower and spire as an astonishing candidate for such a small town. Worcester I have seen only as an accessory to cricket on the box. Peterborough, St Alban's, Rochester . . . sorry, chaps; but top of the second division. The ninth place is a neck-and-neck contest between Gloucester and Hereford.

Gloucester has a lot going for it. Its western approaches up the banks of the Severn provide one of the greatest distant prospects. The transition from the Romanesque nave into that soaring choir, to dazzle the eyes with an east window as big as a tennis court, but glazed five centuries before they invented lawn tennis, is a parable of what it is going to be like to ascend into Heaven, should we be so lucky. Robert of Normandy still has his legs crossed jauntily. The image and environs of Gloucester Cathedral are imprinted on the English memory by the third most influential of all nursery books, *The Tailor of Gloucester*.

Nevertheless, I am sorry to have to tell you that Hereford takes the tenth place in the first division. I could explain why. But it would be more persuasive for you to go and have another look for yourself, preferably as the bright sun sets, and paints the queen of the Welsh marches every soft shade of pink and red.



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BIG SPENDER

Mr Martin Feldstein, the departing chairman of President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, has done his bit to change the Washington climate of opinion against America's large federal deficit. Only Mr Donald Regan, the President's Treasury Secretary, continues to insist that the budget deficit is the United States' gift to the world economy – and nothing to do with rising American interest rates. President Reagan himself, it seems, has come to see the budget deficit as something of an electoral liability.

This conversion is welcome; but as the week's events have shown, dangerously late. Although Mr Reagan has requested, and Congress may even deliver, a down-payment on his budget-cutting plans before the presidential election, the present reality is that the federal government is still pumping huge sums into a fast-expanding economy. The most recent rise in interest rates is the Federal Reserve Board's response to faster-than-expected economic expansion, which makes the budget deficit all the more inflammatory. Those of the President's men who criticize the Fed's chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, for applying the financial brakes are like a bunch of pyromaniacs who complain that the fire brigade has ruined their carpets.

America's trading partners do not, by and large, criticise the Fed: they lay the blame for rising interest rates squarely at the door of the White House. Their first complaint is that European interest rates have to follow suit, a consequence about which the Germans are particularly bitter. They believe that a rise in interest rates now will damage economic recovery in general and Germany's progress towards structural reinvestment in particular.

To this criticism the Americans have two defences. First, that the Europeans do not need to follow suit, and should turn all their brave talk about "decoupling" interest rates into action. When the Europeans retort that they can stand only so much of an exchange-rate decline against the dollar, the Americans deploy their second defence: that dollar strength merely reflects economic vitality. It is the golden investment opportunities in the vibrant American economy, say the President's men, that attract capital inflows and push up the dollar – not the crude lure of high American interest rates.

Admittedly, the American economy is working, adjusting and investing more productively than Europe. The dollar is strengthened by the cutback in capital outflows from the United States, which has virtually given up investing in arthritic European economies.

But much of the inflow into the United States takes the form of short-term financial deposits, and interest rates have had to rise way above European levels to suck in enough of them to plug the hole in the federal government's finances.

This quarrel between Europe and America has been going on so long that it had virtually fallen off the end of the agenda for next month's London economic summit. The hope had been that general recovery – world output has been accelerating for two years – would induce optimism, unanimity and a concentration on longer-term issues, such as trade liberalisation and "structural" adjustment to technological change. The rise in interest rates has forced on to the agenda an issue several goverments had sought to avoid: the nagging problem of third-world debt.

America's summit colleagues in Europe and Japan are united in their concern about the impact of higher interest rates on developing countries, or rather on their ability to buy western goods and repay western debt. Too much of this debt is denominated in dollars, at variable interest rates, so that each one percentage point rise adds $3.5 billion to developing countries' interest burden. In the last resort, this problem forces its own solution: already, the banks are having to rearrange their loans in order to reduce debt payments by as much as $40 billion this year, and much of the extra interest burden will probably go the same rescheduled way.

But the strain of this on western banks – particularly on American banks – is becoming acute. Perhaps it would be no bad thing if one of the many restructuring negotiations finally collapsed under the strain, providing banks and borrowers with real experience as to whether sovereign default is always worse than cumulative rescheduling. But rising interest rates would be the worst precipitating cause; they penalise those who are trying to put their house in order quite as much as the improvident, and handicap the return to world financial stability.

Many technical schemes designed to lessen the impact of high interest rates are being drawn up for the summiteers. None of these palliatives compares with a cure of the fundamental American problem. Yet even with the President on board, the cause of budgetary reform proceeds agonisingly slowly. He is now paying the price of past complacency: a credit crunch and a missed opportunity to cut his deficit at the easiest moment, which is when economic growth is strongest. All he can do now is strengthen the political conviction that his cuts package is only the first of many. Changing tack in election year may be difficult, but vacillation has its proven disadvantages.

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

By most accounts President Reagan's televised address on the subject of Central America was a considerable political triumph. It was skilfully presented, dramatic in detail and forceful in the simple message it conveyed about the dangers to American security posed by Soviet, Cuban and Nicaraguan subversion in Central America. On the political level it seems likely to have achieved a more solid bi-partisan approach to Central American issues than the President might have expected in election year, certainly to judge from the tenuous bi-partisanship evident when the Kissinger recommendations were published earlier this year. Beyond creating an atmosphere of bi-partisanship, however, it also appears from Speaker O'Neill's initial response to the broadcast that the President will now secure some Congressional movement in support of those recommendations. There will thus be further aid for Salvador, though not for the Nicaraguan groups who are fighting the revolutionary government in Managua. Support for them will not have been made any easier by yesterday's preliminary decision of the International Court at the Hague which called on the United States to cease its assistance for military activity against the Sandinista government.

In electoral terms the President's advisers will have cause to be happy with such a bipratisan result. They have been troubled by the evidence that the Central American issue causes concern among voters. That is partly because voters do not understand what the issue is about and partly because they fear that, whatever the issue is, it could lead to an unwelcome entanglement of American forces.

The President did not mince his words about the issue. He portrayed it as one in which Soviet, then Cuban and now Nicaraguan efforts are directed to subverting Central America and undermining the security of the United States. Why should the presence of communist revolutionary regimes in Cuba and Nicaragua necessarily do that? It is because they are quite open about their intention to export their revolution.

However, beyond that potential interference with supplies (which poses the same threat to Europe since much of Nato's replenishment in a crisis would travel the same route) there is another spectre, briefly but significantly mentioned by the President. He referred to the fact that subversion in Salvador had caused 400,000 refugees. There are another 800,000 refugees all over Central America.

"Concerns about the prospect of hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing communist oppression to seek entry into our country are well founded", Mr Reagan said. Compared to the private misgivings in the Administration that was an understatement. Officials fear that continuing subversion of the 100 million people who live between the Panama Canal and the US/Mexican border could provoke a massive domestic upheaval within the United States itself. They think that it is only a matter of time before Central American stability creates an influx of refugees travelling north through Mexico which could amount to millions if the instability had by then also infected Mexico. Such an influx could not be tolerated within the United States, but since the border with Mexico is currently manned by only 600 customs officials, how could it be prevented? The Administration calculates that it would take at least eight divisions to police such a border properly in conditions of major social disturbance.

America's allies in Nato might ponder seriously on the fact that there is only one place those divisions could come from: Europe. Such a strategic prize as the American detachment from Europe would be well worth the 5 billion dollar annual subsidy which the Soviet Union currently extends to Cuba.

IT WAS LATE SIXTY-EIGHT . . .

At first it sounds like a change: "Danny the Red becomes a Green". In fact it is not a long journey across the political spectrum. Herr Daniel Cohn-Bendit who has now joined the Green Party in West Germany, was a prominent figure in the student movement of 1968, but in spite of his nickname he was never a communist or Marxist in any orthodox sense. He was an anarchist, a non-believer in institutions, a radical by temperament more than logic, as disdainful of the ossified bureaucracies of the Soviet block as he was of the allegedly oppressive structures of Western capitalism. A few of his contemporaries moved on into terrorism but most merged into conventional life, acquiring jobs, families and orthodox views. He, however, remained faithful to the fringe and this now enables him, at the advanced age of 38, to step across easily across from the protests of the past to those of the present, once again making headlines, though this time smaller.

How big is his step? Are the Greens the natural heirs of the students of 1968? Although their concerns are different there are many strands that link them. The student revolts which spread around the world in 1968 had specific roots in each country but they had in common a restless, idealistic impatience with established institutions, a belief that if old structures were overthrown they could be replaced by a new world of spontaneity, creativity and social justice. The heroes of the time were Che Guevara, Fidel Castro and Herbert Marcuse, and many students from prosperous middle class homes in Western Europe and the United States managed to convince themselves that they were fighting the same battle as the anti-colonial movements of the Third World. They were against existing power structures, and materialism; they were for peace and justice. The fact that their own prosperity had been created by the system they professed to abhor seemed only to exacerbate their sense of guilt. The product of a huge expansion in university education, many of them saw the universities themselves as in some way the front line of an oppressive system.

Today's Greens in West Germany have more specific concerns, primarily nuclear war and ecology. Most of them are against violence, whereas many of the students of 1968 were fascinated by attempts to justify it intellectually, and some by violence itself. The Greens are mostly not as revolutionary as their forebears. They think more in terms of alternative, parallel ways of life, detached from existing structures. They are also somewhat more eclectic and tolerant, ostensibly less concerned with general doctrines than with action on issues.

This is both their strength and their weakness. They have gathered support from many different parts of the political spectrum, from the far left, the centre and from the old traditions of German conservatism, all of them more or less united against acid rain, nuclear weapons and President Reagan. Yet because they distrust organization they have not been good at organizing. Because they distrust power they have cut down their leaders. Because they distrust politics they have handicapped their elected representatives. And because they have gathered so many disparate elements in their broad embrace they have had to contain a lot of disagreement.

They are true heirs of the radical tradition in all this, and especially in their distrust of conventional politics. To the extent that the Greens are less violent, destructive and dogmatic than the students of 1968 they are a great improvement. They provide some valuable yeast in the system. But it is still reassuring that the voters feel their contribution belongs on the fringe rather than at the centre.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fair play for all in Olympics

From Mr Richard J. Kelly

Sir, The Soviet boycott certainly need not bring about the demise of the Olympic movement, but it does give an opportunity for a reappraisal of the organization of the games.

The two major faults of the games at present are, first, that they are so large and unwieldy as to make it very difficult for any city to provide adequate facilities; secondly, that they are susceptible to political pressures of the kind which we are now witnessing. May I make some suggestions.?

The Olympic Games should be a contest between individuals. If all team sports were dropped from the programme this would have the effect of lessening the element of nationalism which has developed over the years.

As competitors would be taking part as individuals there would be no national teams and no parade of nations at the opening ceremony. There would be no boycott of individual competitors because of the political attitudes of their homelands, over which they have no control and with which they may violently disagree.

Dropping team sports from the programme would go some way towards reducing the size of the games. Another desirable step would be to retain only those events in which performance is measurable in terms of time, distance, height, weight, hits on target.

No sport should be contenanced which relies on assessment by judges of "technique" or "artistic impression". Such sports would continue, of course, to organize their own world championships, but they should have no place in the Olympics.

I believe that these changes would make for a viable and independent Olympic games.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. KELLY,
Brockles House,
Morningtons,
Harlow, Essex.

Missing the boat

From Mr R. G. R. Calvert

Sir, In your leading article, "Selling Sealink short" (May 1), no mention is made that it was the former railway companies that acquired and developed ports and sea services as a very legitimate extension of their transport systems. On the short routes to the Continent it was, and in my opinion still should be, vital to maintain continuity of service, "rail-sea-rail," with properly co-ordinated connections.

We may yet be thankful that the share of shipping belonging to the French railway company, SNCF, will remain under railway control. Incidentally, SNCF is no more subsidized than is British Rail if the subvention is related to the traffic carried and to the size of the system.

If Sealink, and some say the railways, may be sold off by auction, why does the nation not also sell the highway system (all of it)? The exchequer income need not suffer as, apart from a return on the capital value, the new owners would become liable to corporation tax and to local rates.

If British Rail may not keep a profitable subsidiary, allowable in the private sector, why should, for example, the British Broadcasting Corporation be allowed to retain its publishing department (books, recordings, tapes) and the shops through which they are sold?

Yours faithfully,
R. G. R. CALVERT,
15 The Parade,
Truro, Cornwall.

Correcting the record

From Mr Peter Grafton

Sir, At the not inconsiderable risk of infuriating GWR enthusiasts I must draw your attention to two inaccuracies in the article on Swindon works (May 1).

Reference is made to the "record" created by 3440 City of Truro and your reporter perpetuates the myth that this was the first locomotive to exceed 100 mph in this country. This is manifestly untrue as there is little or no evidence to prove that 3440 was travelling at any speed other than very quickly.

The first *authenticated* speed in excess of 100 mph goes to the credit of former LNER Pacific 4472 Flying Scotsman and this record was created during the course of a trip from King's Cross to Leeds and return in 1934.

Your reporter further noted that 3440 was designed by G. J. Churchward. It was in fact designed by William Dean.

Yours truly,
PETER GRAFTON,
1 Whitstone Road, Paignton,
Devon.

'Isis' then and now

From Mr Peter Gillman

Sir, Your informant, Edward Mortimer, is sadly at fault in his memories, reported in *The Times* Diary on April 25, of the *Isis National* launched when Robert Maxwell became owner in 1963.

I was the first editor, not Geoffrey James and the scheme had considerable success. We increased the print run from 1,000 to 5,000 and several issues sold out completely, including one devoted to Joseph Losey's film *The Servant*, which became a collector's item.

The scheme may have flopped after my departure, but during my editorship Maxwell promoted it with much verve. In view of his possible future as a national newspaper proprietor, it is also worth pointing out that Maxwell guaranteed *Isis* complete editorial independence.

Yours sincerely,
PETER GILLMAN,
21 Warminster Road, SE25.
May 1

Industry finds trainees wanting

From Sir Kenneth Corfield

Sir, The more Britain moves towards a knowledge-based society the more education becomes the key to future wealth creation. The world belongs to those who understand this and act upon it.

There are over three million registered unemployed in Britain today. Perhaps as many as half of the total unemployed are under 25. Paradoxically – and tragically – many British companies are constrained in their growth by skill shortages. These are especially severe in the electronics industry and in other sectors requiring electronics and related skills.

We need electronics engineers, test technicians, systems analysis, technical authors, design, development and sales engineers, applications engineers. We also need mechanical engineers to design the tools of the manufacturing plant.

Britain spends less per head on education and allocates a significantly lower percentage of total spending to vocational education than most of her major international competitors. There is thus a correspondingly lower proportion of skilled people entering the work population.

It also explains why individuals find it difficult to train in the face of change. Retraining demands higher general levels of education because it imparts basic conceptual and learning capabilities.

Britain also has less full-time enrolments in higher education than her major industrial competitors. Annual entry to higher education as a percentage of the relevant age group in 1975 was 22 per cent compared to 28 per cent in France, over 30 per cent in Italy and 40 per cent in Japan. The number of trainees in manufacturing is now barely half the level of the mid-sixties.

The ability to be trained and retrain is intrinsic to career patterns today and increasingly depends upon the length and levels of initial education and access to continuous education and training.

Piecemeal changes to the education and training system have been made for the past century. No expression has yet been given, however, to society's increasing recognition that a fundamental overhaul of the total education and training system is needed if Britain is to remain internationally competitive and rich in culture.

Structures have to be found which will make the system directly responsive to the market but without damaging the pure research part of the fabric.

Two prior conditions have to be met to achieve this: the steady integration of the education and training system in recognition of their increasing interdependency and multi-sources of funding for education and training established in such a way that individuals can have access to different resources to support themselves and the cost of their education according to need. Education institutions, too, should have access to the funds they need from a similar variety of sources.

May I add my voice, therefore, to those calling for a new commission into education and training, which will look across not just the sectors governed by the University Grants Committee and the National Advisory Body, but the whole fabric of secondary and tertiary education and training.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH CORFIELD,
Chairman and Chief Executive,
Standard Telephones and Cables plc,
STC House,
190 Strand, WC2.
May 9.

Mr Kinnock's company

From Mr Douglas Eden

Sir, In your April 28 leader, "The company they keep", you depicted accurately and effectively the communist associations and objectives of Mr Arthur Scargill. These are well known, but your description of Mr Neil Kinnock as a moderate manoeuvred into sharing platforms with communists is surely too generous. Labour's leader has had much experience of such platforms.

There is a great deal of evidence to indicate a coincidence of ideas between Mr Kinnock and Mr Scargill. For instance, what could Labour's leader have meant when he told the *Broad Left Alliance Journal* 18 months ago, "I must emphasise that there is nothing in the Labour Party constitution that could or should prevent people from holding opinions which favour Leninist-Trotskyism"?

Is it not significant that Mr Kinnock is the only Labour MP ever to serve on the Labour Research Department's executive committee? The LRD is not part of the Labour Party. It is a classic front organisation under communist control since the 1920s and the majority of Mr Kinnock's colleagues on both the executive and its editorial board, including the secretary, are members of the Communist Party.

Why should a moderate upholder of liberal democracy agree to be a sponsor of the Friends of Afghanistan Society, a front organisation set up after the Soviet coup to mobilise opinion in favour of the puppet regime in Kabul? Mr Kinnock's fellow sponsors include a past chairman (and present member) of the British Communist Party's Executive Committee.

Mr Kinnock has worked with two other communist fronts and helped the Communist Party's newspaper, the *Morning Star*, campaign to increase its readership. He is a member of the Institute for Workers' Control, a Eurocommunist-run gathering point for Marxist-Leninists and related ideologues from all parties and groups of the far left.

Labour's leader does draw the line at those followers of Trotsky who do not support his leadership. His criticism of the Militant Tendency shows there are limits to Mr Kinnock's broad church, but this is in line with Lenin's condemnation of "left-wing communism" as an "infantile disorder".

All these organisations, to which Mr Kinnock has lent the distinction of being sponsored, supported and served by a leading member of a democratically elected Parliament, were official anathema to the Labour Party before 1973. However they may be described, no taxonomist of revolutionary socialism would ever refer to them as "soft left" or "moderate".

It is therefore not unreasonable to conclude that Mr Kinnock's differences with Mr Scargill are tactical rather than ideological. Because Mr Kinnock is in opposition and Mr Scargill occupies a position of power, the parliamentary road to revolutionary socialism has had to defer to the industrial road – as, eight years ago, Mr Mikardo had to defer to Jack Jones, albeit angrily and resentfully. Moderation has nothing to do with it.

Yours faithfully,
J. D. EDEN,
20 Shepherds Hill,
Highgate, N6.
May 5.

Closing an Irish gap

From Sir Patrick Macrory

Sir, Last week, by invitation, I went to Ulster to address the Annual Conference of Local Authorities of Northern Ireland. These are the district councils, the only tier of local government that now exists in the province. Above them there is only what you, Sir, have named "the Macrory gap", which I find flattering but embarrassing, because many people have jumped to the conclusion that it was Macrory who created that gap.

You did your best to correct that impression in your recent leader (April 28) in which you summed up the present position succinctly and accurately.

My theme at the conference last week was, as it has long been the urgent need to close the Macrory gap by restoring the major local government services in Ulster to local democratic control. This was also the theme of the Ulster Unionist Assembly Party's recent discussion paper, *The Way Forward*. Although you dismissed this paper rather contemptuously as "the Unionists' pennyworth". I do submit that it is at the local government level that we can best make a start to secure co-operation between the majority and the minority.

A regional council on the Scottish model, with executive local government powers, would have no prime minister or Cabinet. It would work on the committee system and on each committee, Education, Health, Planning, etc, each of the political parties would be represented in proportion to its strength as a whole.

It might well be that the minority parties would be given the chairmanship of some of these committees, as Brian Faulkner offered them years ago in the Stormont days. Here, surely, is the road to real and meaningful power-sharing. The present Assembly is there, ready and waiting to be converted into a regional council such as I am suggesting.

Moreover, I feel that Irish of different political persuasions may talk more sense when debating a practical issue, such as the need for a recreation park or a new main drain in Limavady, than when they are getting worked up over the ancient wrongs of Kathleen-ni-Houlihan or engaging in heated debates as to whether the Maiden City is to be called Londonderry (its name for nearly 400 years) or Derry.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK MACRORY,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.
May 8.

Queue for service

From Sir Robert Lusty

Sir, Greater productivity, we are for ever being told, is the answer to most of our problems. In whose interest such may ultimately be is seldom questioned.

Certainly the productivity in many aspects and of many activities in this considerable north Cotswold village (with its thriving small industries centre) is much enhanced by the excellent postal service it has enjoyed, serviced admirably within its own community and now under threat by the postal moguls of distant Worcester in another county.

They seem worried, not about the service they are employed to promote, but the productivity of their own operations, whatever else these may be. In consequence it is suggested that our first delivery should be delayed for some three or four vital working hours and our second should be suspended.

It is unlikely that this threat is unique to this community. But for such to be deprived of an early post is an extremely serious prospect to local businesses and concerns of all kinds which, in so-called rural areas, are even more reliant upon their posts than their counterparts in larger towns.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LUSTY,
Broad Close,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
Gloucestershire.
May 4.

African alms from the armed forces

From Dr Alec Dickson

Sir, Armed forces in Africa are unlikely to be disbanded in the next decade or be reduced to a combat strength of some 5,000, as Charles Meynell urges (feature, May 1). But they could, here and now, make a formidable contribution to problems which seem insoluble by any other agency.

The youngsters, unemployed and virtually homeless, who cluster around filling stations with outstretched begging bowls – how can they be helped? Not by alms, but by the army. Illiterate for the greater part, they will never be accepted in any vocational centre. Yet the motor transport section of any military unit could quickly impart to them the practical skills to set themselves up in business as roadside menders of cycles: and any Signals Corps unit or the equivalent of our REME could teach them to repair radios, sewing machines or air conditioners.

There is no need in peacetime for Medical Corps units to run static military hospitals: sick soldiers can be cared for in civilian wards. With their ambulances they could respond to the horrendous traffic accidents that occur so frequently in Africa – and gain experience in treating wounds as grave as those encountered amongst battle casualties.

With their facilities for refrigeration they could deliver vaccines to village clinics, helping immunisation programmes and campaigns against tetanus, diphtheria, polio, smallpox, TB and measles. They could provide the logistic back-up for drives against bilharzia, malaria, river blindness, sleeping sickness and yaws.

Such a role would keep them on their toes. Hospital work can easily become routinised, whilst disaster relief and field operations call for quick responses. There is a functional as well as a linguistic connection between mobility and mobilisation.

In the Sahel and other drought-stricken areas only a massive deployment of an army's whole Corps of Engineers – aided perhaps by Education Corps personnel to still peasants' apprehensions and secure their cooperation – can cope with the well-boring and irrigation tasks which are quite beyond the capacity of a provincial agricultural department. Even the attachment of just a couple of sappers to a community self-help scheme could result in culverts, water tanks and small bridges being tackled by villagers. By becoming soldiers without enemies on the home front, their capacity to deal with external aggression is strengthened, not weakened.

Many senior officers from foreign defence forces attend Staff College courses in this country. Do we involve them in such exercises (in which British forces have a proud record) or just make a passing reference to them in a single lecture? Do our defence attachés ever hint that, apart from the provision of technical hardware, we have experience in military aid to the civil community?

ALEC DICKSON,
19 Blenheim Road, W4.
May 4.

Liverpool heritage

From the Chief Executive of the English Tourist Board

Sir, On visiting the International Garden Festival at Liverpool one is impressed and excited by the newly created three-dimensional landscape with structures. This is a unique collection of the best work of our leading landscape designers and contractors. We have a new bit of heritage.

This part of the site should be made a conservation area at once. In this way we can retain for the stimulation and enjoyment of future generations examples of current landscape design at least as valuable as the groupings of nineteenth-century architecture we protect.

As with architecture, we cannot protect landscape without making arrangements for its future maintenance and use. This site cannot remain as a garden festival, but it could be the setting for other human activities compatible with its character.

How nice it is to feel that as a nation we can still create and look after additions to our heritage of the highest quality.

Yours faithfully
ANDREW THORBURN,
Chief Executive,
English Tourist Board,
4 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1.
May 4.

Slanging the Japanese

From Canon A. J. Bennitt

Sir, The IBA is wrong to censure the comedian who referred to the Japanese as Nips (report, May 5). In the Singapore prison camp where I spent 3½ years our captors told us we must always refer to them as Nipponese, never as Japanese. The Anglican Church in Japan has always been the Nippon-Sei-Ko Kai.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. BENNITT,
4 Kytson Cottages,
Hengrave,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.
May 5.

Landscaping and BR

From Dr J. C. Moore-Gillon

Sir, Miss Rosemary Bashford (May 8) observes that "many stopping trains travel slowly enough for an observant onlooker to watch nature at work". She will be pleased to know that British Rail also regularly offers this valuable recreational and educational opportunity on Inter-City services.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MOORE-GILLON,
47 Elmwood Road, SE24,
May 8.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 10: Sir Hugh Springer (Governor-General of Barbados) had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George.

Lady Springer had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this morning opened the Northern and Shell Building, Mill Harbour, London, E14.

Her Royal Highness toured the building, escorted by the Chairman (Mr Richard Desmond), and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Chancellor of the University of London, this evening attended the Presentation Ceremony of Honorary Life Memberships of the University of London Union (President, Mr Hayden Williams) at the University.

Her Royal Highness, President of the Save the Children Fund, subsequently attended the Greyhound Race Meeting, in aid of the Fund, at the White City Stadium.

Mrs Richard Carew Pole was in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Viscount Long (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon upon the arrival of The King and Queen of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and welcomed Their Majesties on behalf of Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE
May 10: Councillor R Saunders, Speaker of the Confederation, today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Lord Warden and Admiral of the Cinque Ports.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon opened All Saints' Church Hall, Ascot.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 10: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Civic Trust for the North East, this morning inspected restoration work carried out by Northern Heritage Trust at Black Bull Inn, Alnwick and Belford Hall, Belford. His Royal Highness was entertained to luncheon at Northumberland Hall by the Chairman of Alnwich District Council (Councillor E. Tully) and afterwards inspected restoration and development work in Alnwick, Northumberland.

The Duke of Gloucester later travelled to Glasgow in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight to attend 1984 Festival of Architecture celebrations, and on arrival visited the Burrell Collection and the "Scotstyle" Exhibition at the Art Gallery and Museum.

His Royal Highness was entertained to dinner at Albany Hotel, Glasgow by the President, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (Mr J. Richards) and the President, Glasgow Institute of Architects and Convener, Festival of Architecture (Mr D. Leslie).

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at the All Pakistan Women's Association (United Kingdom Branch) Spring Feast held at Hotel Intercontinental, London.

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 10: The Duke of Kent, as President, today visited the Lifeboat Stations of Longhope, Stromness and Kirkwall in Orkney, and in the evening attended a Musical Evening at Blair Castle, Blair Atholl, in aid of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Captain Charles Blount.

The Duchess of Kent today opened the Clarendon Wing, Leeds General Infirmary, and later opened the new Headquarters of British Telecommunications, North East Region, Leeds.

Mrs David Napier was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 10: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present this morning at the Dedication of the Diplomatic Gates commemorating the Bicentennial of the Treaty of Paris, in Grosvenor Square, London and afterwards attended a Reception at the Embassy of the United States of America.

Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

A memorial service for Professor Brian Westerdale Downs will be held in the Chapel of Christ's College, Cambridge, on Saturday, June 2 at 2.30 pm.

Mrs Edward Shotter gave birth to a son on May 1, 1984.

Police prowess: A Merseyside mounted policeman demonstrating the art of pegging at the Windsor Horse Show, which opened yesterday (Photograph: Norman Lomax, report page 27).

Birthdays today

Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Anson, 55; Sir Edgar Beck, 73; Mr Irving Berlin, 96; Dr Rhodes Boyson, MP, 59; Sir John Compton Miller, 84; Mr Salvador Dali, 80; Sir Percy Faulkner, 77; Miss Martha Graham, 88; Sir Ernest Harrison, 58; Professor Anthony Hewish, 60; Mr Justice Hollis, 57; Sir Robert Hunt, 66; Sir Albert Kennedy, 78; Professor W. N. Medlicott, 84; Brigadier Joan Moriarty, 61; Sir Ian Percival, QC, MP, 63; Mr Mike Slemen, 33; Sir Ronald Swayne, 66; the Hon Montague Woodhouse, 67.

Miss Maureen Lipman is 38, not 48, as stated yesterday.

Dancer to retire

David Wall, principal dancer with the Royal Ballet since 1966, is to retire from dancing in August, it was announced yesterday. Mr Wall, who in recent years has been dogged by injuries, is to become associate director with the Royal Academy of Dancing.

Latest appointments

Mr J. S. Whitehead to succeed Mr D. M. Day as Deputy Under-Secretary of State (Chief Clerk), Foreign and Commonwealth Office, from June 1.

Mr David Harry Adams to be a Public Works Loan Commissioner, in succession to Mr E. G. Hopper.

Mr Registrar Enzer to transfer from the Nottingham and Derby group of courts to the Guildford group

University news

Oxford
Trinity College
To an honorary fellowship of the college: Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, MA.

Tutorial fellowships: Dr Simon M Salamon, MA, DPhil (Hertford and Walton colleges) mathematics; and Dr Susan M Kingsman BSc, PhD (B'ham) biochemistry. Scholarships (from exhibitions): R H Seagrove, classics (formerly of Leeds Grammar School); A R J Weale, classics (formerly of Eastbourne College); Miss R G Barton, medicine (formerly of Thomas Rotherham College). Exhibitions: Miss R M Cowler, mod langs (formerly of Maynard School, Exeter); Miss G M Shields, theology (formerly of Sutton High School).

Royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will open the new terminal at Birmingham Airport and will visit the Expo '84 Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre on May 30.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will visit Cheshire on May 30.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Member of the Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers, will attend a meeting of the society at the Institution of Civil Engineers on May 30.

The Prince of Wales will attend a dinner given by the Royal Institute of British Architects at Hampton Court Palace on May 30.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Fellow of the Zoological Society of London, will introduce the scientific session of the symposium, Advances in Animal Conservation, at the society's meeting rooms, Regent's Park, on May 31.

Latest wills

Mrs Sarah Judith Gifford-King, of Swalcliffe, Banbury, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £302,424 net. She left £100,000 equally between the RSPCA, NSPCC, Parkinson's Disease Society and Nuffield Nursing Homes Trust.

Mr Alfred Charles Cuthbert Parker, of Sevenoaks, Kent, left estate valued at £711,769 net, after personal bequests he left the residue to benefit the Ranyard Memorial Charitable Trust.

Millis, Mr Charles Howard Goulden, of Merton, London, managing director of Baring Brothers & Company, merchant bankers, left estate valued a £580,904 net.

Rigden, Miss Elizabeth Barbara Emily, of Bicester, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £1,555,639 net.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. J. Baynham and Miss F. M. Dovey
The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Captain and Mrs B. Baynham, of Auchterarder, Perthshire and Fane, elder daughter of the Hon Mr Justice Dovey and Mrs Dovey, of Sydney, Australia.

Major N. C. I. Rosier and Miss K. R. Johnson
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Rosier, Royal Army Medical Corps, son of Sir Frederick and Lady Rosier, of Ty Haul, Llangollen, and Kate Richeldis, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Johnson, of Cornwall House, Lowestoft.

Mr G. I. Appleby and Miss C. A. McArthur
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey Ian, son of Mr and Mrs K. C. Appleby, of Dringhouses, York, and Catrina Anne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs B. S. McArthur, of Kippax Leeds.

Mr R. L. Clarke annd Miss J. A. Orbell
The engagement is announced between Raymond, younger son of Mr and Mrs L. R. Clarke, of Harlestone, Northamptonshire, and Judith, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. R. Orbell, of Burt St Edmunds, Suffolk.

Captain P. M. Daniel, RE and Miss C. Storch
The engagement is announced between Mark, elder son of Mr and Mrs Philip Daniel, of Emoyeni, West Runton, Norfolk, and Christine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerhard Storch, of Shalimar, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R. V. Friend and Miss K. M. Pennington
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr H. V. Friend, of Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, and Kathryn, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. F. Pennington, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr M. J. Higgins and Miss S. M. Staddon
The engagement is announced between Martin James, youngest son of Mr and Mrs D. J. Higgins, of High Laver, Essex, and Susan Mary, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. C. H. Staddon, of Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

Mr M. R. Hodgson and Miss L. P. Bloom
The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Hodgson, of Wimbledon, London, and Lynne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Rodney Bloom, of Chicago, Illinois, United States.

Mr R. J. R. Jones and Miss J. A. Fermont
The engagement is announced between Roderick, elder son of Dr and Mrs E. Jones, of Chelwood, Avon, and Josephine, only daughter of Dr and Mrs D. A. Fermont, of Harley Street, London.

Mr C. S. Lambert, RAF, and Miss F. J. Yates, QARANC
The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G. M. S. Lambert, of Kenley, Surrey, and Frances, only daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Yates, of St Asaph, Clwyd.

Mr H. G. Pearson and Miss A. D. Jackson
The engagement is announced between Howard, son of Mr and Mrs K. Pearson, of Bromley, Kent, and Davina, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. V. Jackson, of Walberswick, Suffolk.

Mr M. Preston and Miss C. Craton
The engagement is announced between Martin Jeffrey, son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Preston, of Rayleigh, Essex, and Caroline Beverley, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David M. Craton, of Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Mr M. Sutton and Miss S. M. M. Aitken
The engagement is announced between Mark, younger son of James and Margaret Sutton, of St John's Wood, London, and Susie, elder daughter of Ian and Catherine Aitken of Highgate, London.

Mr B. C. Took and Miss M. P. Cook
The engagement is announced between Barry, elder son of Mr B. Took, of St John's Wood, and Mrs D. Took, of Enfield, and Michele, younger daughter of Mr And Mrs P. Cook, of Erdington, West Midlands.

Mr M. Woloshyn and Miss P. M. A. Ravenshear
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr Ivan Woloshyn, of Rosemary Avenue, London, N3, and the late Mrs M. Woloshyn, and Petronella Mary Atalanta, daughter of Mr Peter Ravenshear, of Bucklesham Hall, Suffolk, and Mrs George Teeling Smith of Lamont Road, London, SW10.

Marriage

Mr J. W. H. Llewelyn and Miss D. M. Hallinan
The marriage took place on Thursday, May 10, 1984, at Hereford, between Mr John Llewelyn and Miss Diana Hallinan.

Luncheon

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Sir Peter Mills, MP, (deputy chairman), was host at a luncheon given yesterday at the House of Commons by the Executive Committee of the UK Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in honour of the commonwealth parliamentarians attending the 1984 May parliamentary visit at Westminster.

Service luncheon

TA & VRA
Colonel G. S. P. Carden, Chairman of the Greater London Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association, entertained at luncheon at the Duke of York's Headquarters yesterday guests from the London Borough of Croydon, including Mr Bernard Weatherill, Speaker of the House of Commons, the Mayor of Croydon, the Deputy Leader of the Council, and commanding officers of Croydon based territorial army units.

Meeting

Royal Asiatic Society
The Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland held its anniversary meeting at 56 Queen Anne Street, yesterday. Dr D. J. Duncanson, president, was in the chair.

Royal Academy of Arts

The following elections took place at the General Assembly of Royal Academicians this week:
Keeper of the Royal Academy Schools: Mr Edward Middleditch (from October 1985) in succession to Mr Peter Greenham.
Members of the Royal Academy: Mr Richard Rogers, Mr Paul Hogarth, Mr William Scott, Mr Jeffery Camp.
Associate members of the Royal Academy: Mr R. B. Kitaj and Mr Tom Phillips.

OBITUARY

PROF T. W. THACKER
School of Oriental Studies at Durham

Professor Thomas William Thacker, who died on St George's day, April 23 was the "onlie begetter" of the school of Oriental Studies at Durham, and its Director from 1951 until 1977.

Born on November 6, 1911 and brought up in Adderbury, he attended the City of Oxford School and went on to study at Oxford, joining St Catherine's Society, and then in Berlin (at that time the mecca of young Egyptologists) where he also acquired an excellent knowledge of German as well as a love of German wines. His first teaching appointment was at Bangor: but a year later, in 1938, he became Reader in Hebrew in the Department of Theology at Durham; with the coming of war he served in a branch of the Foreign Office, returning to Durham in 1945 as Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Languages, a title he held until 1951.

Already at this stage he planned to develop the teaching of Oriental studies at Durham, and with the support of the Scarbrough Commission was able in 1948 to form a separate department. In 1951 this became the School of Oriental Studies, and Thacker its first Director as Professor of Semitic Philology.

Over the next decade he expanded the school in many directions, extending its academic activities, building up a substantial library, and acquiring the nucleus of a museum collection. In 1955 the school was installed in its present premises, and in 1960 the Oriental Museum was opened, so that, by the time he retired, his vision was a reality, and Durham a centre of Oriental studies – a tribute both to the range of his sympathies and to his quiet effectiveness as an administrator.

Thacker's concern for the school and for Oriental studies at large left him with little time for scholarly work, and his publications give but an inkling of the depth of his learning and his remarkable command of languages – he thought nothing of tackling Sanskrit in his retirement. His major work was *The Relationship of the Semitic and Egyptian Verbal Systems* (1954), but there were also significant contributions in journals and works of references.

A painstaking teacher, he encouraged many a younger scholar, instilling in each the accuracy that characterised his own work – of whatever kind. Although he was shy and retiring, his circle of friends included "all sorts and conditions of men", and the conviviality of that most English of institutions the pub was a part of his life. For many years Eisendstadt in the Burgenland was a second home during the summer, and Thacker almost an honorary citizen.

He is survived by his wife Katherine Hawthorn, whom he married in 1939, and by their son.

MR JOHN CHANCELLOR

A correspondent writes:

One of the best and most successful of the modern generation of marine artists, John Chancellor died suddenly at his home in Brixham on April 9, aged 59. As a small boy it was evident that he had a considerable talent for drawing, but from the same age this was overshadowed by a passion for the sea. Chancellor left Wycliffe College to join the Merchant Navy as an apprentice in 1942. During the war he twice emerged unscathed when successive ships in which he was serving were torpedoed.

After nearly 30 years at sea, with 20 years in command of tugs, sailing barges, coasters and his own survey vessel, Chancellor swallowed the anchor to concentrate on painting. He had periodically acted as a freelance illustrator and had latterly accepted commissions in oils. He was an instant success, his first exhibition in 1973 being sold out within an hour. This was followed by a second, with similar results, in 1976, as was his first exhibition in watercolours in 1981. At the time of his death a book illustrating his work was about to go to print.

Chancellor's philosophy of painting centred on truth and accuracy of detail, and these are present in all his works, whether they are the historical reconstructions arrived at only after weeks of research, or studies from his own experience.

He was gentle by nature, a man of considerable humour and sensitivity who always had an air of amused disbelief in his own success as a painter. The loss of his remarkable talent will be felt by people spread across the globe; the warmth of his personality will be greatly missed by his many friends and above all by his family.

He is survived by his wife, Rita, a son and three daughters.

MISS E. VIRGINIA WILLIAMS

Miss E. Virginia Williams, founder of the Boston Ballet, died in Boston, Massachusetts, on May 8, aged 70.

Ellen Virginia Williams was born in Melrose, Massachusetts. After studying ballet, she danced in operas but made her career mainly as a ballet teacher of distinction. In 1958 she formed the New England Ballet, an amateur company, with dancers from her school.

From the start it attracted favourable attention each year at regional ballet festivals, and George Balanchine recommended that Miss Williams should be one of the recipients of grants made by the Ford Foundation in 1963 to establish professional companies in various parts of the United States.

The resulting Boston Ballet gave its first season in 1964 and has maintained a high reputation ever since. Balanchine gave the company several of his ballets, but they presented a varied repertory including the Russian classics and modern dance productions. Agnes de Mille, Anna Sokolow, Louis Falco and Paul Taras were among the choreographers who created ballets for the company.

In 1980, Miss Williams invited Violette Verdy to join the company, initially as joint director, and then to succeed her as director, but Virginia Williams remained as artistic adviser. In 1982 and 1983 the Boston Ballet appeared in London during Nureyev's summer seasons, presenting *Swan Lake* and *Don Quixote*.

Miss Williams remained active until the end and was involved in the planning of a new *Romeo and Juliet* to be premiered in Boston this month. Unknown to her, the choreographer, Choo San Goh, had already arranged to dedicate the production to her as a commemoration of a lifetime's service to the art she loved.

She is survived by her husband, Herbert Hobbs, a musician, and a daughter.

Dr James Purdon Martin, FRCP, Consulting Physician to the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases in Queen Square, London, died on May 7 at that hospital, with which he was associated for more than 60 years. He was 90.

Martin also held several other neurological appointments during his career, and published papers on nervous diseases.

Professor David Williams, who died on May 8 at the age of 85, was Professor of Mining Geology at Imperial College, London, from 1950 to 1966, and after that Professor Emeritus.

Mr Shigeo Nagano, president for several years of Nippon Steel Corporation, and a leading figure in Japanese business who was president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce for 15 years, died in Tokyo on May 4 at the age of 83.

Mr John Charles Wade, OBE, who died on May 7 at the age of 76, was Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria from 1974 to 1983 and earlier of the County of Cumberland from 1968 to 1974. He had been general manager of West Cumberland Farmers Ltd from 1931 to 1964, and later became managing director in 1964 and president in 1970.

Mr David Symington, CSI, CIE, who died on April 3 at the age of 79, was a former member of the Indian Civil Service who served as Municipal Commissioner in Bombay and, from 1943 to 1947, as Secretary to the Governor of Bombay. In 1968, as James Halliday, he published *A Special India*.

Lady Buchanan, wife of Professor Sir Colin Buchanan, the architect and town-planner, died on May 8. She was the former Elsie Alice Mitchell, and they were married in 1933.

Happy harpist: Jeanette Cordery, resident harpist at the Savoy Hotel, with her rare £17,000 concert grand harp, which was hand made in Chicago and recently delivered to the Savoy (Photograph: John Voos).

Receptions

Royal Society
The President and Council of the Royal Society entertained fellows and guests at a conversazione held yesterday at 6 Carlton House Terrace.

VOCAL
Sir Sigmund Sternberg, President of VOCAL (Voluntary Organizations Communication and Language), and Vice-President of the College of Speech Therapists, was host at a reception held yesterday at St Ermin's Hotel. The Earl of Halsbury, president of the college, and Mrs Mary La Frenais, Chairman of VOCAL, were among those present.

Coningsby Club
The Coningsby Club held a reception for members of HM Government and the Coningsby Club at the House of Commons yesterday evening.

Dinners

Chief Constables' Club
The annual dinner of the Chief Constables' Club was held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel. Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, presided and Mr Leon Brittan, QC, Secretary of State for the Home Department, was the guest of honour.

Tallow Chandlers' Company
The Tallow Chandlers' Company entertained Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden, the Senior Alderman representing the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs, at a livery dinner at their hall last night. The Master, Mr F. Leslie Living, presided and Sir Peter Gadsden and Lieutenant-Colonel T. A. Donnelly also spoke. Other guests included Sir William Harris, Sir Jocelyn Bodilly, the Master and Clerk of the Grocers' Company and Mr L. R. Price.

Lincoln's Inn
The Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, Judge Argyle, QC, entertained the following guests at a Grand Day dinner held last night in hall:

The Ambassador of Finland, the High Commissioner for Australia, the Bishop of Southwell, the Bishop of Nottingham, Baroness Trumpington, Lord Justice Ackner, Sir Dudley Forwood, Sir Ashley Ponsonby, Admiral Sir David Williams, General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson, Sir Colin Cole, Judge Grant, QC, His Honour Edward Sutcliffe, QC, Mrs Michael Argyle, Mr P E J Focke, QC, Mr J A McDougall, Mr I H F Findlay, Mr G R Dowson, Mr D C Samworth, Mr Donald Pickering and Captain P M Carver.

Scriveners' Company
A dinner for the livery of the Scriveners' Company was held at Apothecaries' Hall last night. The Master, Mr R. A. D. Urquhart, presided, assisted by the Upper Warden, Mr N. R. R. Smith, and the Renter Warden, Mr J. P. B. Brooke-Little. Mr John Owen, QC, Dean of the Arches Court of Canterbury, and Mr Justice Leonard also spoke.

Institution of Structural Engineers
The Institution of Structural Engineers held their anniversary year dinner at Guildhall last night. The principal guest, Lord Flowers, Rector of Imperial College of Science and Technology, proposed the toast to the institution to which the president, Dr R. E. Rowe, responded. Mr Alastair Paterson, president-elect, and Mr Bryan Jefferson also spoke.

Service dinners

Honourable Artillery Company
Active officers of the Honourable Artillery Company dined at Armoury House last night. General Sir Victor FitzGeorge Balfour was in the chair. The guest of honour was General Sir Richard Trant and Lieutenant-General J. B. Akehurst, General Sir Roland Guy, Major-General J. A. C. G. Eyre and Major-General B. L. G. Kenny were also present.

Headquarters RAF Support Command
Air Vice-Marshal T. P. White, Air Officer Commanding Maintenance Units and members of Brampton Park Officers' Mess held a dinner yesterday. The principal guests were Air Marshal Sir Eric Dunn, Chief Engineer, RAF, Group Captain R. F. Saunders, Officer Commanding Joint Air Reconnaissance Intelligence Centre, and Mr D. N. McCallum, Chief Fire Officer for Cambridgeshire.

Liverpool University Air Squadron
Liverpool University Air Squadron held its annual dinner at the Officers' Mess, Altcar, yesterday evening. The guest of honour was Air Marshal Sir Michael Knight, Air Member for Supply and Organization, and the principal guests were Professor D. H. Jennings, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University, and Air Vice-Marshal R. C. F. Peirse, Air Officer Commanding and Commandant RAF College Cranwell. Squadron Leader R. M. Moody presided.



Princess in Dockland: Princess Anne touring the headquarters of Northern and Shell, magazine publishers, at the Isle of Dogs, London, yesterday after officially opening the building.

Science report

Test to identify cystic fibrosis in foetus

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Cystic fibrosis is an inherited lung-damaging disease in which parents who are symptomless carriers stand a one-in-four risk of producing a child with the disease and a life expectancy of just 20 years. Each year, some 350 such children are born in Britain.

However, in a significant advance announced from Edinburgh University, a test has been developed which, when taken at around 16 to 18 weeks' pregnancy, can provide either a 90 per cent reliable indication that the unborn child is free of the disease, or a 99 per cent certain indicator of the opposite.

The test is of direct relevance only to those parents who have had a child with cystic fibrosis because, until now, no effective carrier test has existed and it has not been possible to predict with any great accuracy how many people carry the defective cystic fibrosis gene. Estimates vary between 1 in 15, and 1 in 25 of European populations. But a test that can be generally applied may be available within a year or two.

The new test applied during pregnancy has been developed by Dr David Brock, director of the human genetics unit at the university. It is a relatively simply enzyme identification test based on an amniotic fluid sample and which provides an indicaton within 24 hours. It therefore enables parents to consider termination, in cases where the foetus is likely to be affected.

Referrals of amniotic fluid samples from pregnant mothers who have had a child with cystic fibrosis are coming to the unit from Britain and Europe and almost 70 have been tested.

Dr Brock is particularly anxious to hear from mothers who are in the early stages of pregnancy and who already have a child with cystic fibrosis, both doubly to check the efficiency of the test, and to provide families with the guidance on the likelihood of their next child being affected which, according to results to date, the new test brings.

"The test, as it is now and followed by a wider screening application once its final validity is established and the technique is made more generally available, should have the result of reducing the number of children in coming generations who have to cope with such a terrible disease", says Dr Brock.

The symptoms include severe digestive disorders, but children are prone to lung infections which are difficult to remove with antibiotics. They tend to develop lung damage as a result of these repeated infections, and the gradual loss of lung function is the most life-threatening aspect of the disease.

Church news

Resignations and retirements

The Rev P J Biggs, Truro Diocesan Youth Chaplain to resign on July 16 to take up appointment as chaplain of a girls' school in Perth, Western Australia.

Canon A G Cooke, Rector of St Columb Major with St Wenn, diocese of Truro, to retire on September 30.

Canon H E Hosking, Rector of Redruth with Lanner, diocese of Truro, to retire on September 30.

The Rev R W P Howlett, Vicar of Egloskerry and Tremaine and North Petherwin, Diocese of Truro, to resign the parish of North Petherwin on September 10 due to pastoral reorganization.

The Rev H F Gribble, Chaplain to the Royal Cornwall Hospitals, Diocese of Truro, to resign due to ill health.

The Rev M Hurst-Bannister, priest-in-charge of St Anne's with St Thomas and St Peter, Soho, Diocese of London, to retire on June 30. He will continue as senior Chaplain of the Actors' Church Union.

The Rev H Kellett, Vicar of Hornby with Claughton and Rural Dean of Tunstall, Diocese of Blackburn, to resign as Rural Dean of Tunstall on August 31.

Canon D A Rhymes, parish priest of St Paul's, Woldingham, diocese of Southwark retired on April 30 and became canon Emeritus of Southwark Cathedral, same diocese.

Canon J D Rudd, team Rector of Warwick team ministry and an honorary canon of Coventry Cathedral, to retire on June 30.

Rev M Bramley-Moore, Priest-in-charge of Littledean, diocese of Gloucester, to resign in May.

The J D Cuthbertson, Rector of Stanstead with Shimplingthorne and Alpheton, and Priest-in-charge of Lawshall, diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, to retire on May 31.

The Church in Wales

The Rev R Vickers, Vicar of St Teilo's, Newport, to be Vicar of St Hilary, Greenway.

The Rev J C Woodward, Vicar of Christchurch, Newport, to be Rector of Cynoed.

Scottish Episcopal Church

The Rev J Z Ogilvie, Vicar of Bromley, Kent to be Rector of Isla/Deveron Group of Parishes (Moray).

The Rev A E Nimmo, Priest-in-Charge of St Peter's, Stornoway (Argyll) to be Rector of St Michael and All Saints, Edinburgh.

The Rev A R McKenzie, Chaplain of St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth (St Andrews) to be Chaplain, St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

The Rev D K Mayberry has resigned the appointment of Rector of St John's, Jedburgh (Edinburgh) on becoming Warden of Whitchester Retreat/Conference Centre, Duns (Edinburgh).

The Rev G S Campbell, Rector of St Mark's, East Kilbride (Glasgow) to be Rector of Greyfriars, Kirkcudbright, with St Mary's, Gatehouse of Fleet (Glasgow).

The Rev C A Sinister, Rector of Greyfriars, Kirkcudbright (Glasgow) with St Mary's, Gatehouse of Fleet (Glasgow) to retire on August 2.

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

First mayday calls reach the equity market

Are interest rates likely to go higher? As I *indicated here, yesterday, it is* hard to see why they should not. Can an already high equity market hold its ground, let alone capture more in the face of rising fixed-interest yeilds? It would be prudent to prepare for a fall in the market, perhaps by as much as 150 points in the FT 30 share index.

What effect would tacky gilt-edged prices and softening ordinary share prices have on the Government's funding and privatization programmes? They would make the former more difficult and throw a long shadow over the British Telecom issue. Even in the most enthusiastic market, because of its size and novel quality, Telecom would be a formidable trial for sponsoring underwriters and investors alike.

Finally, will these chilly winds from the financial market blow the economic recovery and Mrs *Thatcher's strategy* off course? It is too soon to say, save to note that a weak pound and the rising cost of credit have an unwanted bearing on the future rate of inflation. Reflecting such thougts, index-linked gilt-edged stocks are *back in vogue, moving up three-eights* yesterday.

The gilt-edged market as a whole yesterday recovered some of its poise, whole equities, aware of the imminent close of the current Stock Exchange account, looked both weary and wary. The Bank of England raised its dealing rates (in band four) by half a point to 8⅞, but this is still around a point below three and six months interbank rates. The new tap stock, 9½% Treasury Convertible, at 48⁷⁄₁₆ is stranded 1⁹⁄₁₆ below its issue price. If the Government Broker is to sell stock before the end of the banking month on Wednesday, then he will presumably lower the price.

The US bond market is fractured by even greater uncertainty. Wednesday's ten-year auction went badly and the result of the 30-year auction is awaited with some trepidation. Both British and US Governments currently face the same problem: raising money. If yesterday's rumours about the deep water into which one of the US banks has fallen (or rather fallen further) are true, then the storm cones would turn into mayday signals.

Meanwhile Dr Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers, was reiterating his forecast that interest rates are unlikely to fall this year, and will probably rise again next year. Speaking in London to an investment seminar for fund managers he repeated his argument that the only discipline in financial markets at the moment is interest rates. Unless, therefore, the United States government acted to cut its budget deficit, interest rates would have to rise further.

Dr Kaufman's presence in London was *part of Salomon's pitch* to sell its fixed rate services to managers of multi-currency funds. The firm makes no bones about its *ambition to become the world's biggest* force in research and trading in fixed interest stocks. To that end it has embarked upon an *elaborate research* programme designed to identify for fund *managers the best opportunities in bond* markets.

The research will cover the US dollar, *the yen, the Deutschemark, the Canadian* dollar, among others. Salomon is treading carefully before selling its gilts services in London. *While the City is in the throes of* reorganization, this may be wise.

Pensions untouched for the time being

Takeovers aside, the rumour that the Chancellor was about to stand up and insert a new clause in the Finance Bill to remove tax relief for lump-sum pension payments has caused more widespread and instant panic among respectable folk in the City than almost any other in recent years. Insurance companies were preparing to keep staff until midnight to beat the deadline. *The Times* has investigated this rumour more than once and found nothing in it. Without pointing any fingers, it must be said that some accountants and insurance companies seem to have made a lot of money from panic deals by pensioners.

Mr Peter Rees, the Chief Secretary, finally scotched the immediate rumour in the Commons yesterday. It would, have been preposterous for the Treasury and the Inland Revenue to have hurried forward such a drastic and far-reaching proposal when Mr Norman Fowler at the Department of Health and Social Security is in the middle of weighing all the evidence given to his broad pensions inquiry. But as MPs and insurance men were pointing out yesterday, this does not mean the end of the matter. A change is a runner for next year's Budget.

Mr Fowler's Green Paper on personal portable pensions (PPP), the first product of the pensions inquiry, is likely to be published next month. It will be a cautious document, bowing to the weight of evidence from the pensions lobby and the trade unions. It may offer the pensions only as an add-on for those committed to company pension schemes a timid step that would add little to consumer choice.

However, any extension of the present self-employed pension arrangements to employees would give the opportunity to question tax relief.

The possibility of commuting pension rights into a tax-free lump sum softens this harsh regime. It is the annuity element rather than the cash element of pensions that we should be questioning.

Breaking into broking

Some major institutions are now thinking in terms of forming their own broking houses with poached staff and new technology. This is looking the superior alternative to buying interests in existing firms, whose technology is not so new, at a premium. A precedent was set by America's Prudential-Bache Corporation which formed a London broking firm with staff lured from James Capel.

Stock Exchange rules allow personal but not corporate membership but in the Stock Exchange Council's discussion document, corporate membership is a question of when rather than if. This prospect may be very much in the mind of Lloyds Bank, the only clearer not yet to have formed a broking partnership. The bank remains tight-lipped about reports that it is exploring this avenue, talking to dynamic partners of some not-so-dynamic firms. Lloyds would say only that it is exploring "all avenues for expansion".

The Times 1984 Budget briefing

The briefing will take place at the Dorchester Hotel on May 22, with myself *as chairman*. The principal speaker is Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, who will explain the strategic *thinking behind the* Chancellor's radical tax reforms. Information may be obtained and bookings made by telephoning 01-405 3501 (24 hours).

Discount house and merchant bank join City shake-up

By Christopher Dunn and Wayne Lintott

Two of the City's most *respected* houses, Baring Brothers and Gerrard and National, yesterday revealed separate plans for each to take part in the revolution in financial services.

Gerrard and National, possibly the City's largest discount house, plans an aggressive three into gilt-edged jobbing, as well as a series of international moves, to benefit from the changing structure of London's *financial institutions, the group* revealed yesterday after announcing its annual results.

Mr Roger Gibbs, the chairman of Gerrard, which earlier this year was linked with a mystery suitor in abortive bid talks, said yesterday: "It would be logical to extend our market-making activities beyond the *area of short assets into the full* spectrum of gilt-edged. This we intend to do, and over the next year we will be building a team for this purpose."

Gerrard's moves come some weeks after Clive Discount announced a rather more modest sortie into gilt-edged jobbing which may involve Stock Exchange membership.

The group, which denied that it is currently discussing merger business, is keen to expand existing trading connexions with both the US and Japan.

It is possible that the group is *hoping to develop into* a fully fledged international dealing operation in the medium term, expanding by acquisitions and by organic growth.

Profits for the year to April 5, 1984, fell from £14m to £10m. The group has also transferred more than £5m from hidden reserves to cover adjustments in the *Gerrard leasing business*, arising from the Chancellor's recent legislation. Since the year end, the group has sold its gilt-edged book and scaled down both the size and length of its total portfolio.

Baring Brothers & Co., London's oldest merchant bank, yesterday made a tentative move into the City's changing structure by buying the Far-East business of the stockbrokers Henderson Crosthwaite, for an undisclosed sum.

The agreement is subject to clearance by the regulatory *authorities, particularly* the Ministry of Finance in Japan, because Baring wants to change Henderson's representative office into a full branch office able to trade as a broker in Tokyo.

The Tokyo office at present supplies only information and research, but a branch office would enable Baring to deal at cheaper commissions and begin moving into the Japanese equity and bond markets.

Mr John Dare, the Baring executive dealing with the agreement, admitted that as the new company would be incorporated in London, a logical extension to its business would be an application for corporate membership of the London *Stock Exchange, when the new* rules permit.

Henderson's senior partner, Mr Andrew Barlow, said the decision to sell the Hongkong partnership – the whole team will move to Baring – arose partly as a result of increasing competition in London, par*ticularly after the link between* Vickers da Costa and Citicorp and the expansion of Rowe and Pitman.

● Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, has announced the formation of a Hongkong subsidiary, providing financial advisory services from June.

Ultramar price fall

The shares of Ultramar dropped by 38p to 609p yesterday despite a 24 per cent rise in first-quarter pretax profits to £59.3m on turnover up 85 per cent at £784.3m.

Ultramar has confirmed that 1983's total dividend will rise by 2p to 17p and that a one-for-one scrip issue will be made.

***However, interest payments* jumped from £4m to £17.5m and the company says that marketing and refining divisions in eastern Canada and California were still disappointing. Strong competition, particularly in eastern Canada, sometimes drove petrol prices well below the cost of crude oil.**

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index:1094.4 down 15.5
FT Index: 884.9 down 11.3
FT Gilts: 80.13 down 0.35
FT All Share: 517.16 down 7.70
Bargains: 20,045
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 116.91 down 1.63
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1167.61 up 2.09
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,879.71 down 180.58
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 921.31 down 18.40
Amsterdam: 178.5 down 1.0
Sydney: AO Index 747.9 down 2.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1020.5 down 9.9
Brussels: General Index 154.56 down 0.09
Paris: CAC Index 178.9 down 2.0
Zurich: SKA General 317.20 unchanged

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
S1.3850 down ½ cent
Index 80.1 up 0.1
DM 3.8425 down 0.0025
FrF 11.80 up 0.0150
Yen 317.50 down 0.75

Dollar
Index 131.9 up 0.3
DM 2.7750 down 0.0122

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling S1.3790
Dollar DM 2.7826

INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.583500
SDR £0.751534

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9.9 ¼
Finance houses base rate 9
Discount market loans week fixed 8-8½
3 month interbank 9⅝ - 9½

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11¾ - 11⅞
3 month DM 6⅛ - 6
3 month Fr F12⅝ -12⅜

US rates
Bank prime rate 12.50
Fed funds 11
Treasury long bond 90²¹⁄₃₂ - 90²⁵⁄₃₂

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period April 4 to May 1, 1983 inclusive: 8.934 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $370.10 pm $371.75
close $373.50 – 374 (£270–270.50)
New York (latest): $373.25
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$385-386.50 (£278.25-279.25)

Sir Michael Herries, pictured outside the Royal Bank's Edinburgh headquarters: "Further tax provision needed"

£56m interim profit for Royal Bank

By *Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor*

The Royal Bank and Lloyds Bank are now likely to reach a rapid deal over their shareholding dispute as a result of a series of unexpected blows to their *jointly* owned finance company Lloyds and Scottish.

Its profits for the six months to March, previously on a rising trend, have fallen from £11.7m to £8m partly as a result of continuing bad and doubtful debt provisions. More seriously, Lloyds and Scottish has been obliged to write off £78.4m, some 30 per *cent of its capital*, to provide more for deferred taxation for leasing operations in the wake of the Chancellor's moves to phase out capital allowances. The little-traded Lloyds and Scottish shares fell 10p to 130p yesterday.

Lloyds increased its stake in the Royal Bank of Scotland from 16 to 21 per cent last year as part of its continuing plans to buy the Royal Bank's 39 per cent stake in Lloyds and Scottish. The Department of Trade has until mid-June to decide whether to refer this to the Monopolies Commission.

Negotiations over the future of Lloyds and Scottish have so *far foundered over the price*. But the twin setbacks to the finance company are likely to have made the Royal Bank more flexible and anxious to negotiate a swift deal that will *involve Lloyds making a bid for* the whole of Lloyds and Scottish and financing the deal by selling some and possibly all its shares in the Royal Bank.

Meanwhile, the Royal Bank of Scotland itself has turned in a sparkling performance in the six months to March with pretax profits up from £31.2m to £56.8m and an interim dividend lifted from 3p to 3.3p.

Although the first half of the previous year was particularly poor, the Royal Bank has achieved an increase in its gross interest margins from 3.2 to 3.5 per cent. It has also done more business, increasing its assets by *14 per cent and its net interest* income by 17 per cent, despite problems in its dollar business.

The charge for bad and doubtful debts is also down from £24m to £17m, reflecting a relatively early recovery in the Scottish economy. Profits for the full year to September are expected to rise from £95.5m to about £120m.

However, the Royal Bank will have to make an estimated £90m provision for deferred taxation on the same principles as the big four clearing banks.

Reuters names trustees

By Philip Robinson

The trustees responsible for keeping Reuters independent when the news and business information agency goes public next month were named yesterday.

The four new trustees are Mr John Freeman, former chairman of London Weekend *Television and a former Brilish* Ambassador in Washington: Professor Lord McGregor of Durris, chairman of the Advertising Standards Authority and a former chairman of the Royal Commission on the Press: Mr Kenneth Morgan, director of the Press Council and former General *secretary of the National Union* of Journalists and Mr Kingman Brewster, a former US Ambassador to Britain and former president of Yale University.

***Of the remaining ten trus*tees, from the Press Association are: Mr Stanley Clarke, chairman and managing director of the International Thomson Organisation, Mr Gordon Linacre, deputy chairman and chief executive of United Newspapers, and Mr Jack Wallwork, a director of the *Daily Mail* and General Trust.**

From the Newspaper Publishers' Association: Lord *Hartwell*, chairman and editor-in-chief of the *Daily Telegraph*, Lord Matthews, chairman of *Fleet Holdings and* Express Newspapers, Mr Clive Thornton, chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers and Viscount Rothermere, chairman of Associated Newspapers.

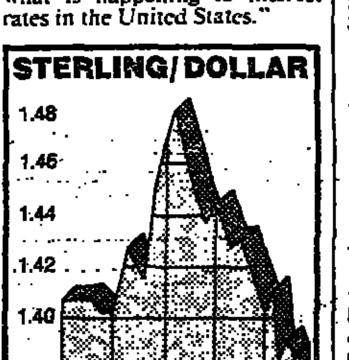
Sterling touches $1.3750

By William Kay, *City Editor*

The pound hit yet another low against the dollar yesterday, tumbling 1½ cents to $1.3750. But by the close of trading in London, it recovered to $1.3850, *thanks to intervention* by European central banks and late nervousness concerning reported difficulties at Continental Illinois Bank.

In the House, the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, said at Treasury question time that there were "signs of a welcome change in the attitude of the US *administration towards their* deficit.". Nevertheless, he said, the US deficit would be on the agenda at the economic summit in London next month.

Mr Lawson added: "The rise in US interest rates is unwelcome, but it is not a bitter blow. There will always be fluctuations, particularly with what is happening in America. We cannot be wholly immune to what is happening to interest rates in the United States."



NEWS IN BRIEF

Shell raises stake in US offshoot

Royal Dutch-Shell's $5.5 billion (nearly *£4 billion) bid* for the 30.5 per cent of its American arm it does not already own has been accepted by shareholders representing more than 64 million shares. The bid, which has run into fierce opposition from some shareholders of Shell Oil Co has been extended to May 23. Royal Dutch, which was forced to increase its offer from $55 a share to $58, says it will not buy *any shares at above $58* for 18 months.

● DEBENHAMS is set to show that the department store business can survive in the 21st century but much more as a financial services conglomerate on the lines of Sears Roebuck in the US. *Profits* last year were up from £19.6m to £32.7m, with a big boost from the Welbeck *Finance credit business*. The company is now gearing up to use Welbeck's strenght to start a new range of financial and property services. It hopes to sign the deal with Harris Queensway withing two months.

Tempus, page 20

● Ward White, *the footwear* retailing group, has increased pretax profits for the year to January 1984 to £8.8m from £5.3m. Turnover went up from £136.2m to £179.4m. The final dividend of 3.39p makes 4.93p for the year against 4.48p last time.

Tempus, page 20

Seagram buys 155 off-licences

By Derek Pain

Seagram Co, the world's biggest drinks group, is emerging as a powerful force in *Britain's* highly competitive off-licence trade. Yesterday it announced that it was paying £7.5m to Scottish & Newcastle Breweries for its 155 Gough Brothers shops which are mainly in London and the *Home Counties*.

Last month the Canadian-based Seagram acquired for £3.7m 75 per cent of the 57-outlet Oddbins chain of wine shops.

Mr Ivan Straker, the chairman of Seagram, said he was *not discussing* any further takeovers at the moment. But he added: "I beliveve in consolidating before launching a new offensive."

S & N's decision to sell *Gough*, which it acquired for £4.2m in 1979, came at a time when other breweries are increasing their off-licence presence.

Two regional breweries, each with significant off-licence interests, announced interim profits yesterday. Greenall Whitley, the largest of the regionals, reported figures of £10.5m against just under £9m and a dividend up 7.45 per cent to 1.928p a share. Vaux Breweries, based at Sunderland, announced profits of £4,353,000 against £4,185,000. The dividend is 3.4p (3.025p).

Price rises for UK 'among Europe's lowest'

Survey refutes power protests

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Complaints from British industry, particularly the high energy users like steel and chemicals, that their electricity costs are among the highest in Europe receive scant support in the latest world survey conducted by the American-based National Utility Services.

This shows that commercial and *industrial power* costs in Britain last month varied among the nine electricity *boards* from 3.45p to 3.6p per kilowatt hour, significantly less than the 3.7p to 4.56p per kilowatt hour charged in West Germany.

Electricité de France charged its business customers 2.95p per kilowatt hour, about ½p less than in Britain, but Belgian industry is paying *3.76p, the Dutch* 3.57p (comparable to the UK) and the Italian 4.44p.

The NUS survey, covering 750,000 business locations, reveals that only four countries of the 12 in the study – Canada, Belgium, the Netherlands and the US – experienced an annual price increase for industrial users greater than *local retail price index rises*.

Much has been done by the Government to bring British industrial energy costs *more* into line with the country's main European competitors, but electricity charges have remained, in industry's view, out of line. Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, commenting a week ago on the miners' strike, said that the seven big electricity-using sectors could be helped by the supply of more competitively produced *and therefore* cheaper coal.

But the NUS report says that *in Britain* a "modest 3.5 per cent electricity price increase, entirely due to the British fuel cost adjustment system, was well below the country's 5.2 per cent retail price index rise in the 12 months to April – "although any increase during a government 'price freeze' is hardly welcome."

In Belgium, industrial con*sumers have experienced* the third largest price for electricity in the NUS survey – a retail *prices increase of 6.9 per cent*. During the 12 months, Belgian oil and other feedstock costs fell by 3 per cent.

The highest electricity price increase was in Canada – 10.1 per cent – followed by Ireland with 9.2 per cent. Britain's average increase of 3.5 per cent was beaten only by Germany's 1.5 per cent. French industry paid 6.5 per cent more, the Italians 6.2 per cent more and the Swedes almost 5 per cent more.

Mr Roger Nicholls, an NUS spokesman, said that stable or lower oil prices had contributed to steadier retail and electricity prices, particularly in countries where oil was a major generation feedstock.

£20m loss for Royal Insurance

By Andrew Cornelius

Royal Insurance plunged into loss in the first quarter of this year after suffering a £28m increase in weather losses to £45m compared with the same period in 1983.

The group, which is one of Britain's largest composite Insurers, reported pretax losses *of £20.4m* compared with pretax profits of £9.2m at the comparable stage last year. This was despite a 5 per cent increase in worldwide premium to £523.4m.

Royal's shares fell by 6p to 540p as analysts contemplated the prospect of a downturn in Royal's profits for 1984, compared with *1983*, and first-quarter figures due next week from other leading insurers, including *the troubled Commercial* Union Group.

The Huge increase in weather claims was caused by extensive storm damage in th North of England and Scotland. At the *same time Royal continued* to suffer from problems in the United States, where there was a *significant* increase in commercial claims and insurance rates continued to be inadequate.

Mr John Howard, chief general manager, said that after a wide-ranging reappraisal of the US businesses Royal had decided to relocate its US headquarters from New York to the south in 1986. This will save 7 per cent of Royal's controllable expenses about $24m in the US. Mr Howard said.

Royal also intends to close unprofitable agencies in the US

STOCK MARKET

Fears of US bank crisis hit index

Michael Clark

Fears that one of America's biggest banks, the Continental Illinois, was in difficulties sent a shudder through Wall Street last night and could have serious repercussions on the London stock market when dealings resume this morning.

Reports about the US bank had been circulating for several days. As a result share prices in New York lost an early firm start as the price of Continental Illinois slumped $¾ to $12⅞ – a two-day fall of $1½. Street analysts now fear that Continental Illinois will be forced to cut its dividend in August resulting in renewed weakness in the shares.

A spokesman for the group last night confirmed that its federal funding desk was operating normally, but refused to comment on speculation that the group had applied for bankruptcy proceedings to be initiated. The reports started after two of the group's clients, the Charter Co and Public Services of New Hampshire, applied for receivers to be appointed.

The news was badly received in London and was mainly responsible for the *FT* Index closing at its low for the day, 11.3 down at 884.9, having seen prices attempt a rally after hours.

Dealers in London also remain fearful of another rise in domestic interest rates owing to the pound's continued weakness on the foreign exchanges, where at one stage it hit another low against the dollar.

This was reflected in gilts where losses of up to £1½ were reported in longs. The only improvements were seen in the index-linked stocks which closed with gains of £⅛.

Dealings in **Wordplex**, the systems information service, made a good start despite the general depression elsewhere in the market. The 10 million shares were offered by way of tender at a minimum tender price of 240p and were offered by way of tender at a minimum tender price of 240p and were 1.9 times oversubscribed. Yesterday the shares opened at 313p compared with the striking price of 275p, but profit-taking produced a closing price of 306p. A premium of 31p in first time dealings.

Tarmac's decision to form a joint roof tile venture with Amey Roadstone, part of Consolidated Gold Fields, could be bad news for Britain's market leaders, Redland and Marley. Analysts believe the new venture will add 10 per cent to existing market capacity and result in lower margins. The news wiped 9p off Redland at 276p yesterday, and left Marley 1½p lower at 84½p.

Investment company, the **Bishopsgate Trust**, has received an approach from an unnamed suitor which, the board says, could lead to an offer for the company being made. Earlier this week the **Equitable Life Assurance Society** announced it had increased its holding to 2.6 million shares, or 11 per cent of the total. Bishopsgate responded to the news with a rise of 29p to another new high of 190p.

Brokers Rowe & Pitman has successfully placed the rump of **British Car Auction's** recent £17m rights issue. The remaining 1.8 million shares, 10.9 per cent, were placed with institutions at 103.87p. Mr David Wickins, chairman of BCA, said he planned to use the money to help finance the group's US acquisition. Shares of BCA recovered an early fall to close unchanged at 107p.

Meanwhile, Mr David Wickins associate, Mr Michael Ashcroft, has increased his holding in Henlys. **Coleman Milne**, the luxury car conversion group, has bought an extra 700,000 shares taking its total holding to 3.5 milliion, or 24.98 per cent. Henlys was unmoved by the news at 121p.

Horizon Travel, the package tour group, slipped 4p to 171p after the Greater Manchester Transport Executive announced it had sold part of its holding amounting to 750,000 shares. This reduces the stake it shares with the Lancashire United Transport to 3.47 million shares.

Leading shares showed widespread falls, but the picture might have been worse were it not for a strong rally by **Bowater**, up at 309p, after 299p, on hopes that terms for the sale of its Newfoundland interests would be announced shortly.

Denials from the Government that it intended to immediately restrict tax benefits on personal pensions failed to offer any relief to the life assurance companies. Among the losers **Pearl** slumped 13p to 734p.

On the bid front, **Donald Macpherson** rose 7p to 127p with the new bidder the Finnish chemicals group, **Tikkurilan Varitehtaat**, wasting little time after announcing its terms before wading into the market place and picking up more shares. On Wednesday it brought an extra 700,000 shares in Macpherson lifting its total holding to 1.6 million shares, or 8.8 per cent. The Finnish group has bid 125p a share topping **Yule Catto's** earlier bid of 110p a share. Dealers are now hoping that Yule Catto will increase its offer.

Microvitec, Britain's largest producer of computer terminals, has confirmed its intention of joining the USM with the offer of 7.3 million shares (26 per cent) at 180p, valuing the entire company at 180p. Offers for sale are a rare event on the USM these days, but should not prevent the shares opening at a premium in the first-time dealings. At this level the group, which supplies monitors to Sinclair and Acorn, is valued at £48.9m and has already stated it will apply for a full listing next year.

Plan Invest, the unit trust portfolio adviser, which joined the USM recently rose 3p to 73p after the **Edinburgh Financial Trust** announced it had increased its holding to 9.09 per cent of the equity.

Equity turnover on May 9, was £237.758m (18,208 bargains). The number of British and Irish stocks traded were 134.4 million. Gilt bargains totalled 3,659.

● **BORDER & SOUTHERN STOCKHOLDERS TRUST:** Half-year to March 31, 1984. Pretax revenue £2.32m (£2.58m). Interim payment 1.3p (same). Full year's revenue may be reduced. But board expects to pay at least same dividends as last year, drawing if necessary on revenue reserves.

● **OCEANA DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT TRUST:** Year to March 31, 1984. Gross revenue £73,000 (£50,000). Dividend 2p (1.82p).

● **MINTY:** Year to Jan. 28, 1984. Turnover £3.49m (£3.42m). Pretax profit £19,600 (£21,210). Dividend 4p (same).

● **APPLEYARD GROUP:** Appleyard has disposed of its interest in leasehold premises at North Street, Leeds, which have been unoccupied since Sept. 1981. The existing lease has been surrendered and Appleyard has paid £130,000 on the surrender. A two-year lease of property adjoining Appleyard's Roseville Road, Leeds, premises has been taken up at a rental of £40,000 a year. Appleyard will purchase this property, which is used by Appleyard of Leeds, for £440,000 by May 9, 1986.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	8¾%
BCCI	9¼%
Citibank Savings †	9¾%
Consolidated Crds	8¾%
Continental Trust	8½%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	8½%
Midland Bank	9¼%
Nat Westminster	8½%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	8½%
Citibank NA	9¼%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6%, £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¾%; £50 000 and over, 7¼%.

MONEY MARKETS

The Bank of England at least cleared away one uncertainty yesterday when it jacked up its intervention rates by one-half percentage point after Wednesday's base rate rises, moving into line with NatWest and Lloyds.

Some band 4 bills were taken at a rate 9/16 per cent above the previous dealing level, reflecting bearish mood of the market.

The authorities first forecst a £150m shortage but raised it to around £250m at midday.

The Bank showed its hand at noon with pruchases of £212m of bills. Later, a further £54m, of band 4 bills changed hands at 8⅞ per cent, making the total assistance £266m.

This over provision helped to bring rates crashing off by up to about 1 per cent at the close.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Rising US interest rates and a poor response to a government bond auction overnight in New York yesterday brought a sharp early advance in the dollar. But the currency lost much of its gains by the close as nervous profit-taking developed on reports that a leading bank was in "difficulties".

Intervention by European central banks also brought the dollar back.

Sterling fell to a record low of 1.3750 before closing ½ cent off at 1.3850 against the dollar, though its international value finished 0.1 better at 80.1 after 79.9 initially. It ended little changed at 3.8425 (3.8450) against the Deutschemark after 3.8515 at one stage.

Bunzl sells US holding

By Andrew Cornelius

Bunzl, the paper and packaging group, yesterday formally ended its long-standing relationship with the American Filtrona Corporation by selling its 20 per cent holding in the company to AFC for £8.3m.

The corporation was established to manufacture cigarette filters for the US market.

At the same time, AFC agreed to place its 10 per cent holding in Bunzl in the London stock market at 517p a share. Both agreements must be approved by Bunzl shareholders.

Mr Ernest Beaumont, the Bunzl chairman, said that the cross-holding between the two companies no longer makes any strategic or commercial sense.

He said that the agreement went back to a time when both companies were engaged in cigarette filter manufacture

AFC is now a broadly based filtration and plastics company which will benefit from buying out the "foreign" Bunzl stake, for Bunzl, it marks the latest in a series of moves to reorganize its business to lessen its dependence on cigarette filter manufacture.

Mr Beaumont said that the £8.3m proceeds from the share sale will be invested to expand Bunzl's activities. Bunzl expects to be able to invest the funds in business that will earn a significantly higher return on capital employed than that generated by the dividends from the AFC investment which amounted to £357,000 last year.

TEMPUS

BOC sceptics fear the rainbow's end

The key factor in the BOC trading equation is tucked away in the interim statement – "not only have volumes on industrial gases increased in the US, but because of tightening supply and demand, prices have risen." The US capital spending recovery has arrived, and BOC should enjoy a geared participation.

The group is already talking about some fairly spectacular gains. Compared with the first half last year, oxygen and argon sales are ahead by 30 and 50 per cent respectively, a direct result, according to BOC, of the resurgence in the steel and metal fabrication industries in America. Excess capacity has been dropping out, discounts have been absorbed and prices rose in April by some 7 per cent.

On the regional basis, this improvement translates into more than doubled profits for BOC's American interests, while the divisional breakdown gives a more modest upturn in gas profits, from £56m to £63m.

But as BOC stresses in typically exuberant style, the capital upturn only started filtering through around the turn of the year. The whole of the second half should reflect what sounds like a gathering storm of demand, with prices rising. Add in the sharp recovery on the carbon graphite side, where nearly all the £7m upswing into profit too place in the second quarter, and it is hardly surprising that both company and analysts are looking for a record-breaking year.

Perhaps BOC may even reach the £160m of profits forecast at the top end of the brokers' range, a figure which becomes £300m–plus after adding back excess depreciation. At 292p, that puts the group on a prospective p/e of around 10.

BOC is certainly behaving as if that figure is a reasonable possibility. No capital raising moves are planned, the group is acquisition hungry, borrowings are not scheduled to rise substantially by the year-end, and annualized capital expenditure is running at some £240m. US gas capacity is to rise by a fifth shortly.

The additional logic behind the BOC optimism involves the global spread of activities. Theoretically these should improve on the first half's average profits gain of a third, as the US resurgence ripples outwards.

Sadly, however, the stock market, paralleled by Dr Henry Kaufman's strictures on rates, is already acting as a classic discounting mechanism, perhaps signalling that it could be all over by 1985. On the charts the price relative is ambiguous but slipping. The shares may well be a cheeky sell.

Ward White

The emergence of Ward White as a leading force in footwear retailing and distribution has been both swift and successful. Four years more than 50 per cent of its operations were at the ailing manufacturing end of the industry. Last year only 9 per cent of trading profit came from manufacturing, with 57 per cent from retail and distribution.

The transformation has been achieved on the back of some very astute acquisitions, both at home and in the United States. It has 400 outlets in Britain and 193 in the US, including those of its latest investment, a 44.7 per cent stake in Wiener Enterprises, which promises to add another £1m to net after-tax profit in a full year.

Ward White is looking for a total of 1,000 outlets in the UK and could absorb 200 more with virtually no addition to central overheads. With £17m cash and a more respectable gearing level in the wake of the rights issue, it would be in a position to make an acquisition of up to £40m to help it reach this target.

The company has, however, a growing fascination with the US market and its ventures there have proved successful. Nearly 40 per cent of trading profit is now generated ther. Ward White has invested over £33m in US retailing in the last four years and the company's top management is actively involved there in the running of the Wiener investment.

The share price, up 1p at 132p, remains remarkably low and the company is wide open to a takeover bid as it represents such good value.

Debenhams

Debenhams went out of its way yesterday to stress that, contrary to City speculation, it had no intention of hiving off its Welbeck Finance credit subsidiary. The reasons are twofold – the first spoken, the second merely implicit. Last year Welbeck made 40 per cent of Debenhams profits with a more-than doubled contribution of £17m, against £8m. This growth is expected to continue and Debenhams sees Welbeck as a cornerstone of the mainstream business. Debenhams wants to benefit from the expected spectacular growth over the next few years rather than let outsiders in.

The second implicit reason is defensive. Debenhams is much stronger than it was and the chances of a bid from Mr Gerald Ronson or anyone else have receded. But should the bid come, Welbeck could play an important role in keeping shareholders loyal.

Welbeck's performance has also masked the big upturn in trading profits from the department stores themselves. Debenhams believes it has found the formula which will allow the department store to survive in the 21st century and no doubt Professor Roland Smith at House of Fraser will be pondering yesterday's figures. The growth in profits is genuine, with property profits substantially down on last year.

The stores have benefited greatly from increased credit sales by offering special deals to credit customers. About 27 per cent of Debenhams sales are on credit but the long-term aim is to get that figure up to more than 50 per cent, like Seurs Roebuck in the US. Such high levels of credit sales give Debenhams greater control over its customers and will steer them towards the financial and property services to start on a trial basis in a few stores over the next few months.

The actual tax ratio is 10% and the yield is more than 6 per cent with the shares down 5p at 177p. Given the confidence of the chairman, Mr Bob Thornton, about profits growth, this does not look expensive.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers. 1-3 St Pauls Churchyard EC4P 4DX 01-236 1833			
106.6	86.1	American Growth	98.5	105.1	1.52
83 1	65 4	Cmdy & Energy	78.4	83.4e	2.67
63.4	43.5	UK Growth	72.1	65.8e	2.34
100.3	81.5	General	95.3	103.0	2.34
118.7	114.4	Gilt & Fixed Int	116.6	121.5e	9.89
		Canada Life Unit Trust Managers. 2-6 High St. Potters Bar. Herts. P Bar 51122			
81.3	64 1	Canlife Gen	76 6	82.7	3 [illegible]
121.0	91.8	Do Accum	116 9	123.1	3 [illegible]
33 6	29 5	Gilt & F Int	32.4	34 1	..
56.[illegible]	41.2	Income Dist	54.1	57 0e	6 43
103 7	71.3	Do Accum	101 2	106.6	6.43
		Capel (James) Management Ltd. 100 Old Broad St. EC2N 1BQ. 01-588 6010			
214 2	170.1	Capital Fnd (3)	214.2	225.5e	1 81
162 8	108.3	Income Fnd (3)	162 6	171 2e	6.34
242.9	170.8	Smaller Co's	242.9	258.5	2.51
274.6	187.8	Do Accum	274.6	292.2	2.51
874 5	507 3	Pacific	870.5	909.9e	0.50
973 8	558.9	Do Accum	969.4	1,013	0.50
246.7	178 9	North Am	202.0	212.5	2.03
277 2	200.4	Do Accum	227.6	238.2	2.03
209 0	121 1	European	209 0	217.8	1.99
250 3	143 6	Do Accum	250.3	260.7	1.99
		Guardian Royal Exchange Unit Man Ltd. Royal Exchange. London. EC3P 3DN. 01-628 8011			
213.8	164.3	Guardhill	206.7	214.2	3.16
		Mencap Unit Trust Managers Ltd. Unicorn Hse. 252 Romford Rd. E7. 01-534 5544			
87.8	60 7	Mencap	86 7	92.2e	3 [illegible]
		Mercury Fund Managers Ltd. 33 King William St. EC4 R9AS 01-280 2860			
78 3	50.0	Am Grth Dist	63.2	67.2e	0.88
78 5	50.0	Do Accum	64.0	68 0e	0 88
		Scottish Widows Fund Management. PO Box 902, Edinburgh. EH16 5BU.			
173 1	129.7	Pegasus Accum	168 3	179 1	3 44
		Stewart Unit Trust Managers Ltd. 45 Charlotte St. Edinburgh 031-226 3271			
184.3	140 6	American Fnd	154.0	164 4	0 98
152 1	98 6	Australian Fnd	137 8	147.9	0 75
375 8	250 6	Brit. Cap. Fnd	322.8	343 4	3.54
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

£10m turnround in first half at AE

By Andrew Cornelius

AE, formerly Associated Engineering, yesterday announced a dramatic turnround in profits in the the half bear to March 31 which the company says justifies its fight to remain independent following the takeover attempt by Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds.

Pretax profits of £8.2m at the interim stage compare with losses of £2.3m at the same stage last year, on sales which grew by £12m to £203.7m.

Mr John Collyear, the chairman, said: "The prospects for the year vindicate the views I expressed in the 1983 report and accounts that AE has a good future as a continuing independent company."

He said that the group would now concentrate on organic growth and plans to spend £16m this year on fixed investment. "The constraint is the availability of plant and materials, not resources", Mr Collyear said.

The improvement in trading was helped by a 20 per cent increase in exports compared with the previous year, with the sales growth helped by stronger trading in both Europe and the United States. Increased activity by important customers like Ford and General Motors has helped AE both at home and abroad, with continuing strong sales of the Metro and Maestro cars by BL also helping to bolster the workload in Britain.

Mr Collyear says that the group is benefiting from its investment in high technology products and process engineering. The improved productivity of the group is reflected by the fact that it is achieving higher sales with 10,000 fewer employees than the 27,000 people the group employed in 1980.

The costs of fighting the takeover bid by GKN were £300,000 and are included as part of a £1.4m extraordinary provision which also included a £1m provision for deferred taxation and £100,000 for closures.

The board is recommending an interim dividend of 1.75p a share compared with no payment last time.

WALL STREET

Dow rises as bonds fall

The Dow Jones industrial average was ahead almost 4 points shortly after the market opened.

Declines led advances 424-390 among the 1,281 issues crossing the New York Stock Exchange tape.

Analysts said at the outset that selling was likely to continue.

Investors will be watching closely as the Treasury auctions off 30-year bonds worth $4.25 billion, to complete its three-day $1.65 billion second-quarter refunding programme.

The bond market skidded again amid speculation that interest to be paid on the long-term bonds would be astronomical because demand for them would be minimal.

"If bond prices keep falling and interest rates keep rising, it eventually makes bonds more attractive than stocks," said Mr David Jones of Aubrey G Lanston and Co.

"At the same time, the economy will slow and take the bloom off corporate profits that had been attracting investors into the stock market."

	May 9	May 8		May 9	May 8		May 9	May 8
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

*Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

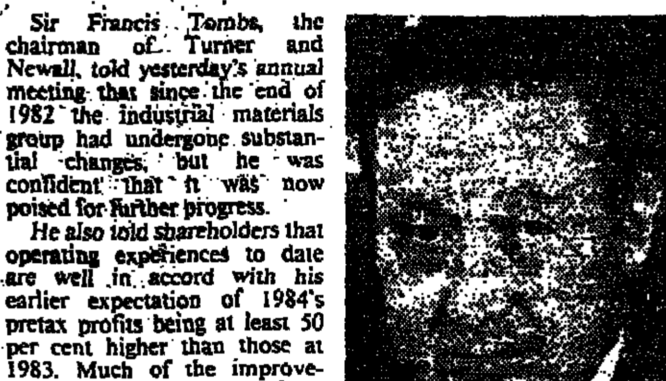
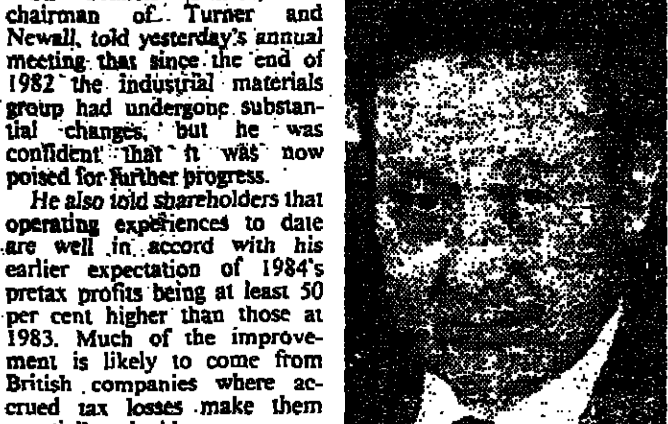
Turner and Newall set for 50% profit rise

Sir Francis Tombs, the chairman of Turner and Newall, told yesterday's annual meeting that since the end of 1982 the industrial materials group had undergone substantial changes, but he was confident that it was now poised for further progress.

He also told shareholders that operating experiences to date are well in accord with his earlier expectation of 1984's pretax profits being at least 50 per cent higher than those at 1983. Much of the improvement is likely to come from British companies where accrued tax losses make them especially valuable.

However, the economic situation in India and Africa continues to be difficult and these traditional supporters of the group's profitability will make a smaller contribution in 1984.

The bulk of the "dramatic surgery" within the group is now complete and in a number of places in Britain Turner has bee recruiting small numbers. There are distinct signs of improved demand at home in some sectors, but the construction sector generally remains depressed.



Sir Francis: confident of further progress

In brief

● HOLT LLOYD INTERNATIONAL: Year to Feb 25, 1984. Sales £55.04m (£52.87m). Pretax profits £4.23m (£2.06m). Dividend unchanged at 3.17p. Board expects total dividends for current year to be not less than 3.5p on capital increased by the recently announced rights issue.

● WARNER ESTATE HOLDINGS: Half-year to March 31, 1984. Turnover £5.31m (£4.4m). Pretax profit £1.5m (£1.21m). Interim payment 5p (4p).

● PORTER CHADBURN: Year to Jan 6, 1984. Turnover £12.84m (£13.56m). Pretax loss £157,000 (loss £545,000). Dividend 0.35p (same).

● FAIRLINE BOATS: Fairline, builders of inshore and offshore power cruisers, report a 115 per cent jump in pretax profit to £146,000 and a 20 per cent rise in turnover to £2.79m for the half-year to March 31. The interim payment goes up by 50 per cent to 1.12p a share. Mr Sam Newington, chairman, tells shareholders that the balance sheet remains strong and provided Fairline can obtain parts to build boats, he expects a reasonable second half.

● EXPAMET INTERNATIONAL: Expamet has bought Signfix, makers of patented steel clips, etc. The immediate consideration is £657,000 in cash and shares. Additional deferred consideration is payable, depending on profits.

● WOODHOUSE & RIXSON (HOLDINGS): Total dividend for 1983 halved to 0.75p a share. Turnover £8.6m (£12.42m). Pretax loss £444,000 (£643,000 profit). Trading in the first quarter of 1984 showed a marked improvement on last two quarters of 1983.

● CO-OPERATIVE RETAIL SERVICES: In their annual report, directors say prospects appear brighter than for some time. Policies formulated in recent years are now being seen to be effective and they are confident of further progress in current year.

● JOHN FOSTER & SON: Year to Mach 2, 1984. Pretax profit £603,000 (£245,000). Turnover £17.02m (£14.7m). Total dividend 2.25p (1.5p).

● LINREAD: Mr D. g. Lynall, chairman, told the annual meeting: "The first quarter of 1984 has shown continuing improvement in our recovery programme. A slightly higher customer demand has helped our progress, but the majority of it is due to improvements in productivity arising from last year's drastic reorganisation. In spite of the significant improvement in our fortunes we clearly still have a very long way to go before reaching what we would consider to be an acceptable level of performance."

● MARINE ADVENTURE SAILING TRUST: Half-year to Jan 31, 1984. Pretax profit £47,000 (£41,000).

● VOYAGER PETROLEUM UK: Board reports that negotiations which were expected to lead to the sale of an 80 per cent interest in Voyager and a subsequent offer for the minority shares have been broken off. Accordingly, no sale and no offer are being made.

Schroder Wagg names division head

APPOINTMENTS

J Henry Schroder Wagg & Co: Mr Peter Sedgwick has been appointed head of the investment division with effect from July 2. He succeeded Mr **Gordon Popham** who, earlier this year, was appointed group managing director of investment management and personnal financial services worldwide for the Schroder Group. Mr **Bernard Crowder** has been appointed a director with effect fron July 16. He will be managing director of the Singapore International Merchant Bankers, an assocated company of the Schroder Group and he will be based in Singapore.

Seagram UK: Mr **Brendan Carr** has become director of finance an administration. He will continue as compay secretary.

Wendy Restaurants (UK): Mr **Jack St Clair** has been appointed managing director. He succeeds Mr **David Mitchell**, who leaves to join Berni Inns.

Barclays Bank: Mr **John Quinton** and Mr **Andrew Buxton** are to become vice-chairmen, after the proposed merger of Barclays Bank and Barclays Bank International on January 1, 1985. Mr **Peter Leslie** becomes chief general manager and three senior general managers are named: Mr **Peter Ardron** (International), Mr **Robert Sale** (UK), and Mr **Humphrey Norrington** (Finance). There are two new general manager appointments: Mr **Trevor Nicholas** (Resources) and Mr **Ted Foster** (Corporate). All other members of senior management retain their present functions.

Big rise in whisky output expected

By Jeremy Warner

Scotland's whisky distilleries are beginning to gear up for a big jump in production after more than four years of drastic cuts.

A number of distilleries, some of which have been operating at as little as 10 per cent of capacity, are to increase production by as much as as a fifth this year and will prepare for a surge in demand next year as well.

The industry is optimistic that the heavy destocking, which has been a feature of the recession, has at last come to an end, and, that even if there is no re-stocking. Scotch whisky blenders will at last start to replenish what they are using now.

A sustained improvement in demand from the blenders will benefit many small isolated Highland and island communities where the distilleries are often an important source of employment.

At the Highland Park Distillery, at Kirkwall, on Orkney, Mr Jim Lochhead, the manager, reckons it will soon be necessary to take on extra staff.

"We are planning to lift production of Highland Park by about 20 per cent this year to take the distillery up to 35 per cent capacity utilization," he says. At its peak, the distillery employed 48 people but this has been reduced to 32.

"The signs are that we will see a more significant jump still in production during 1985 and we could well find ourselves short of staff" says Mr Lochhead.

Most distilleries will again operate an extended silent season of four months this year, but among the top mah distilleries the products of which are widely used in the leading blends, there is a noticeable change in mood.

BSG International in £10m cash call

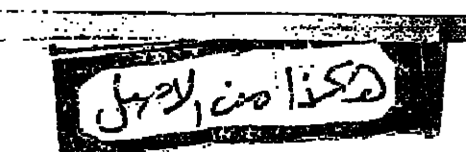
By William Kay, City Editor

Less than a month after announcing yearly results, the motor distributor BSG International has returned to the stock market to ask shareholders for £10.1m through a one-for-one rights issue at 17p a share compared with 21p for the existing shares ahead of the deal.

As the 1983 figures produced a dramatic turnround from a £1.3m loss to a £3.3m profit, that would have been the obvious time to cash in on shareholders' goodwill.

As it is, the chairman, Mr Astley Whittall, contents himself with saying that "the directors are encouraged by the current level of trading. The management accounts for the first quarter of 1984 show an improvement on the comparable period of 1983. The board therefore looks to the future with considerable confidence."

The new shares will not rank for the final dividend for 1983. But last year's 1p-a-share payment should be repeated on the share capital as doubled by the rights issue.



Help at hand for the high-tech failures

By Derek Harris

A Management group has been launched to tackle problems of small businesses in high-technology areas, including what is believed to be a large failure rate.

The unit, at the London Business School, will be an extension of the work of the Institute of Small Business Management (ISBN) which has been operating at the school for more than 10 years. Stuart Slatter, who is director of the ISBN, will also be director of the new unit.

David Trippier, minister with responsibility for small businesses, yesterday inaugurated the unit, which is being financed for the next four years by Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants.

It followed recently announced backing by Ernst & Whinney, another firm of accountants, for a four-year research fellowship which will allow investigation by ISBN of the problems of growth companies in service industries.

Dr Slatter said: "The thrust of the ISBN is to look at problems of growth and that has led us into the two major sectors of high technology and the service industries. That leaves one area which we believe should be especially explored: the problems of delegation in family-controlled businesses."


Dr Slatter: exploring problems

As part of the Coopers & Lybrand initiative, a pilot study of 60 companies in a wide variety of high-technology areas was started iin February. Sectors like telecommunications, bio-medical innovation and microelectronics are being explored with company studies. First results should show up in the autumn leading to seminars, workshops and courses to put over the research findings together with published material.

Some pseeail factors with high-techbology small businesses have already emerged. Such companies need to take an international stance much earlier in their corporate development. They are also managing professionals rather than shop-floor workers. Dr Slatter added: "clearly the failure rate among high-technology-based companies is going to prove to be very high."

An assessment of the work before the new unit yesterday suggested that a "significant proportion" of small companies which are successful in innovation are unsuccessful in the formulation and implementation of businesses strategies. That was the reason for the high failure rate among such small businesses even though they might have technologically superior products, it was suggested.

Yet small companies account for a significant proportion of the technological innovations in Britain and therefore play a strategically important role in determining Britain's future technological leadership, the report said.

The new unit wants to promote the teaching of management of small high-technology companies not only at London Business School but more widely in Britain to increase the flow of managers equipped to tackle their characteristic problems. It also aims to be a catalyst in bringing about changes to support and promote such companies in Britain.

● *Contact: Dr Stuart Slatter, London Business School, Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4SA (01) 262 5050.*

Getting derelicts back to work

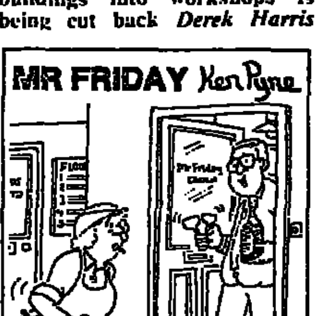
Aid under a scheme to promote the conversion of derelict rural buildings into workshops is being cut back *Derek Harris* writes. The Development Commission is cutting grant aid from 35 per cent of a project's cost to 25 per cent.

The grant cut is being made so that as many projects as possible can be helped within the constraints of the commission's financial ceiling. The scheme, an experimental one, is administered by the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (Cosira), the executive arm of the commission which tackles economic and social problems in rural areas.

The scheme – first launched in the autumn, 1982 – was restricted to comparatively few rural areas, but was extended to many other parts of England in March last year. In the last six months before the extension [illegible] involving grants of around £1m.

Applications for aid are expected to continue at a rate of 300 a year, says the commission. The new grant rate applied from May 1 but any projects already in the pipeline by then will remain eligible for grants up to the 35 per cent level. Grants until now have been running on average between £5,000 and £7,000.

The scheme has ushered in conversions of a wide range of rural buildings including disused barns, mills and forges, but is now under review ahead of the termination of the experiment in March next year. The commission says that the lower rate is the one it would hope to retain should the scheme be extended beyond next March. It still [illegible]



"Excu[illegible] I've ju[illegible] no one [illegible]


Philippa Fraser and bottles: a taste for good business — Tom Kidd

First of the season's wine – in Scotland

By David Black

The first of the season's wine crop harvest is under way at Britain's northernmost winery, eight miles from Inverness. No grapes will grow in these latitudes so the output from the cellars of Moniack Castle depends on more traditional sources.

In four years, with no previous experience of wine-making, Philippa Fraser, a mother of four, has turned her initial £100 investment capital into a business which produced 10,000 cases of wine last year and an annual turnover of £200,000. She was first motivated by the wealth of local recipes for home-made wine and the fact that people around her were developing a considerable taste for the produce from the amateur, kitchen-table wine makers.

She confesses to being lured by the profit potential and set about picking the brains of wine-makers in the South of England and Italy. "I had to acquire a lot of knowledge very fast," she said. "Now I have chemists in England I can call up for advice".

She turns out six different wines made from elderflower, meadowsweet, rowanberries, silver birch sap and red and white grapes from England. She also makes mead and her first liqueur – sloe gin – was introduced last November.

Starting up involved reroofing a few outhouses and stables to house the 50-gallon vat and 550-gallon storage casks. The fermenting room which has to be maintained at a steady 75 degrees Centigrade is three old stables knocked together. Mrs Fraser also required an Excise licence to sell to the trade and she has since acquired an off sales licence to catch passing tourist custom and a public house licence with a view to opening a wine bar. Last year more than 16,000 people visited the castle.

She describes the business as like domestic wine-making but on a larger scale. That scale has been increasing since 1980 – she now employs 12 full-time staff and six part-time during the harvest rush.

The wines have more than 500 outlets throughout Scotland, in hotels, restaurants and the Wine Lodge and Peter Dominic chains. But sales south of the border are limited to the Lancashire area and there have been no forays into the export market despite numerous inquiries.

Mrs Fraser said: "We want to firmly establish ourselves in Scotland first. There is still plenty to do here and we are in no hurry". Although not adverse to the prospect of continued expansion, she feels family ties as well as market demand may act as a brake.

Her wines are allowed to mature for a year before being sold. Last year, a vintage, sold out. Bottling and labelling, at 3,000 a week in season, is by hand. The castle, which has been in the family for six generations acts as a business logo.

She is also investigating the possibilities of freezing sap and berries to allow year round production and avoid the present seasonal harvest frenzies.

Firming flabby outfits

By Philip Robinson

Small firms with average ideas and loose accounting systems will never attract the kind of money for expansion which they see being offered to others which run a tighter ship. But a new private company designed to invest development capital into sound potential businesses also offers a service which will mould the reporting systems of a loose business into a shape more likely to attract additional investment.

Colonnade Development Capital, formed last year as part of the financial services arm of Abaco Investments, a public listed company born out of the old Greencoat Properties, offers just such a service. It will charge about £7,500 a year for the privilege, but by the end, a small business should look a tempting investment, says Colonnade. At that time, Colonnade is likely to take a stake itself.

Peter Goldie, a Colonnade director who is a chartered accountant and a former director of Guinness Mahon, says: "When people have been running a business, having complete control over it for any length of time, it is rather a culture shock when trying to come around to the City to raise money. They don't understand why the City wants to know this and that. We will smooth the way."

But preening small firms is not what Colonnade sees as its prime job. It is a development capital fund, hoping to earn profits as the investments it makes in unquoted companies mature into public companies. It will also apply for a full list of its own shares in about two years.

Colannade has no track record. Its offer for subscription was arranged by Brown Goldie & Co., which controls the financial services arm of Abaco and E. B. Savory Milln & Co. the stockbrokers. Brown Goldie will act as investment manager and Savory Milln will be investment adviser.

Mr Goldie added: "It is true that everything in the City judged on the basis of a track record. But then going around to institutions to raise money for investment, they were impressed with the system of [illegible]

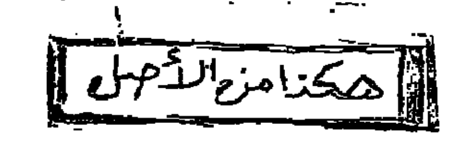
Easing a path to government contracts

BRIEFING

■ The small firms' route to government contracts is being made a little easier. Until this month only small-value orders of £5,000 or less were exempt from specific approval procedures, but the ceiling has now been raised to £10,000. David Trippier, minister for small businesses, says the change should particularly benefit new suppliers and small firms seeking government business. Under examination is the possibility of simplifying and standardizing the technical information which [illegible] general information has already been agreed and will be used by all government purchasing departments from July 1.

■ Aimed particularly at those starting up a company a series of six how-to-run-a-business books, each in a new departure accompanied by illustrative software which can subsequently be used to process a company's [illegible] produced by [illegible] the publishers, and Spicer and Pegler Associates, the management consultancy arm of accountants Spicer and Pegler. Each book stands alone; subjects covered include cash flow control, business performance measurement, costing and pricing and evaluating capital expenditure. The software at present runs on Apple IIe or Apple II Plus but will be extended to other micros later. Cost is £28.75 for each book with software and including VAT but there is no reduction for buying the whole series. Contact: David Salway, Spicer and Pegler Associates, St Mary Axe House, 56-60 St [illegible] (01) 283 [illegible]

■ First [illegible] last year [illegible] Wavy Line [illegible] group of small grocers operating as a "symbol" chain with typically husband-and-wife teams operating as franchisees. Out of 3,500 outlets more than 120 have now been revamped under the chain's TOP (Trader's Opportunity Plan) scheme which has so far produced for early participants an average 16 per cent sales uplift. Another 70 outlets are now joining the TOP scheme, with a total of 350 expected to be converted by the [illegible]



FT – ACTUARIES INDICES	
INDUSTRIAL GROUP	515.85 (522.92)
500 SHARE INDEX	565.16 (573.18)
*EARNINGS YIELD	10.20 (10.12)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.31% (4.25%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.07 (12.25)
ALL SHARE INDEX	517.16 (524.86)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.52% (4.45%)

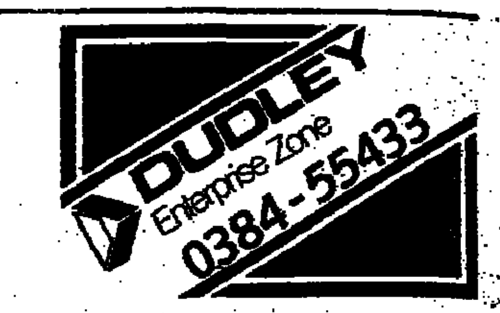
* estimated (previous close)

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Widespread selling

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began April 30. Dealings End Today. § Contango Day, May 14. Settlement Day, May 21

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.



BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A – B

C – E

F – H

I – N

O – S

T – Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

PLANTATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS

UNLISTED SECURITIES

RECENT ISSUES

MONEY MARKETS

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

OTHER MARKETS

GOLD

EURO-$ DEPOSITS

COMMODITIES



Kuwait appeals for cooperation on oil

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

A call for greater cooperation between members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries on oil production levels has been made by Shaikh Nasser Obammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber, a member of the Kuwait Government.

Speaking at an oil industry seminar in Durham yesterday, he called for Britain to follow Mexico, the other leading non-Opec oil exporter, to enter into an informal agreement. He also warned the European petrochemicals industry against attempting to set up trade barriers to keep the emerging Arab petrochemical industry out of the world markets.

Britain is now producing 2.5 million barrels of oil a day from the North Sea compared with 2.1 million when Opec made its present price and production agreement in London last March. Since then, various sectors within Opec have been arguing that Britian should keep to the 2.1 million barrel-a-day level during the present period of slack demand.

Shaikh Al-Jaber said yesterday: "Our message is cooperation. We seek more cooperation, not less, between the Arab Gulf states and your country. We see a comfortable world demand for Opec oil especially from our region in the years ahead. We want, like you, to see a stable world energy industry without disruptive price shocks. Our friends in Mexico, for example, have recently been cooperating with our country and we would on the same terms welcome greater United Kingdom cooperation.

"Cooperation means just what it says and I refer to all fields in the Arab Gulf states. For example, we are entering the petrochemical market with high hopes and Britain and Europe should be very cautious about restricting trade by erecting any barriers. We need to cooperate in this, as in any other matter."

The minister said that his country wanted to cooperate with Britain.

UEI sees profits falter

By Ian Griffiths

UEI, the electronic and engineering company, saw pre-tax profits for the year to January slip back from £9.4m to £8.2m, mainly because the Cosworth Group, which makes racing car engines and components, failed to produce an expected upturn before the year-end.

There was also a marked reduction in aerospace orders for the Yewlands Group towards the end of 1983, reflecting a generally sluggish performance throughout the year.

This year, however, UEI has seen improved trading and Yewlands is running at a small profit which the company hopes to maintain.

There were also signs of improvement at Cosworth, which has expanded its engineering division to cope with several design contracts for major motor manufacturers. It has also won a major four-year contract with Mercedes-Benz

AMERICA'S CUP: ROYAL THAMES AIM AT HIGH BUDGET AND LOW PROFILE

Easton's £6m challenge

By David Miller



Admiral Sir Ian Easton: challenger

The success of Britain's America's Cup challenge in 1987 under the Royal Thames flag will depend considerably on the ability of West Nally, the public relations company, to raise sponsorship worth a minimum £4.5m over the next six months. The firm is optimistic of being able to find £6m, the kind of sum which Peter de Savary, for instance, was not prepared to invest a second time out of his own resources.

The Royal Thames have decided to give their backing to a syndicate formed under the name of Admiral Sir Ian Easton, former Commandant of the Royal College of Defence Studies, as opposed to the alternative syndicate which was being marshalled by Kit Hobday, vice-chairman of the Victory '83 syndicate last year. It seems that Royal Thames did not wish for a high-profile campaign such as Hobday might have conducted, though his substantial experience over two America's Cup campaigns may yet be taken on board by the preferred syndicate. Royal Burnham YC and the Royal Yacht Squadron had declined any interest before Royal Thames submitted the British entry.

Hobday did not have exclusivity on de Savary's offer to donate £400,000-worth of equipment, including his first 12 metre, the Dubois-designed Victory '82, which will be available to the Easton group. De Savary is keen to provide the knowledge gained from his three-year project, but wishes to be a contributor, not a platform. One possible sponsor expected to come forward is British Aerospace; and a commercial airline, offering reduced travel costs to Australia, will be vital to the budget.

Further imminent meetings of the Royal Thames will decide two important administrative functions: the chairman of the America's Cup committee and the syndicate's full-time sailing manager. The key to the 1984-87 campaign will be team work at all levels.

One of the short comings of the Victory syndicate, in spite of de Savary's prodigious investment of money and enthusiasm and apart from his controversial postponement of a decision on the after-guard, was a lack of day-to-day direction in Newport or Nassau whenever de Savary himself was absent. Neither Jim Alabaster nor Charles Spedding had sufficient independent authority at the dock. Additionally, winter training knowledge of both computers and the crews were not adequately synchronized into the ultimate race planning, and there were differences between the Victory '83 designer, Ian Gowlett, and the crew, on the most advantageous tuning of the boat. Huge economies can be made, on the Victory experience, in rigging and sail purchase.

All these lessons can now be fed into the Royal Thames challenge. Possible chairmen of the committee are Graham Walker, a retired Jersey businessman who was captain of last year's Admiral's Cup team, Robin Aisher and Christopher Dunning. An able but potentially provocative sailing manager would be Harry Cudmore, the joint Victory helmsman with de Savary, was sacked in early 1983.

The technical independence of the designer may have to be modified by a role as consultant. It is thought that Howlett, who was under contract to de Savray, may wish to collaborate while Roger Marshall, a British designer in the United States, could also be incorporated. The Americans and Australians have huge hull design developments under way, and the British cannot afford to be becalmed at the starting line. The Royal Thames will reassess their position within the year: they would rather cut their losses early than limp through to take a lowly place among the 23 entries.

It seems sure that sail designer Angus Melrose, whose skill was enlisted possibly too late to help Victory, will be involved, especially as he has been working in the loft of the Australia II syndicate most of the winter. Chris Law is the most obvious likely helmsman, while the mature Kelvin Rawlings and the Thompson twins, belly masters of the wind, would be the preferred nucleus of the front eight.

The task in Perth will be more demanding than in Rhode Island, not simply in cost and distance, but in the size of the challenging fleet and accumulated foreign knowledge. John Kolius, the lightweight skipper with the Robert Redford smile, who in Courageous gave Dennis Conner's Liberty such a close run in the 1983 defender's trials, will lead the New York YC challenge.

The NYYC have already purchased their own foreshore dock site at Fremantle, as has Conner's San Diego club. The government of Western Australia is developing a new marina with modern workshop facilities for the expected fleet. What has yet to be decided is which club will be the challenger of record, overseeing the race conditions and foreign elimination series – Royal Thames are thought to be reluctant – and whether the multiple US entry must be reduced under the rules to one challenger before the elimination series. I guess the event should sell a few cans of lager.

TENNIS

Kitty Godfree winning the 1926 title

Wimbledons women on centenary parade

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Wimbledon is always a special occasion. This year it will be a very special occasion, especially for those to whom youth is a memory. The first women's singles championship was played in 1884 and 17 of the surviving champions have accepted invitations, expenses paid, to be the tournament's centenary guests.

The three champions missing will be the two Helens, Wills (later Moody and Roark) and Jacobs, and possibly Karen Hantze (later Susman), who may yet find it possible to come. The oldest former champion to attend will be Kitty Godfree, formerly Miss McKane, who is now aged 88, still plays tennis, but is rumoured to be slowing down.

Five of the centenary heroines are expected to compete in one event or another: Billie Jean King, Evonne Cawley, Virginia Wade, Chris Lloyd, and Martina Navratilova. The rest will join them in a Centre Court parade on July 2, the second Monday, and all will be presented with inscribed Waterford crystal. As an appropriate change, this year's musical accompaniment will be provided by the Women's Royal Army Corps.

Two films are being made, one primarily for distribution overseas, to commemorate 100 years of the women's championship. Two respected historians have produced a booklet about the 34 women who have won the title. The Bayswater-born Mrs Godfree is to be honoured with a statue to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the first of her two singles championships.

Another statue in evidence this year will feature Fred Perry, who is also to have the Somerset Road gates renamed to commemorate his achievements. It is 50 years since Perry won his first Wimbledon singles championship. Until Bjorn Borg came along, Perry was the only man to win the men's title three years in a row after playing through the tournament

Since Perry's successes the only British player to reach the final has been Bunny Austin (1938) and only Mike Sangster and Roger Taylor have advanced to the semi-finals. In taking pride in the Perry of 50 years ago, Britain may also feel some embarrassment at the failure of his male compatriots to reach similar heights.

It may therefore be a coincidental veil of kindness that, to some extent, the Perry of 1984 will be upstaged by Mrs Godfree, Alice Marble, Pauline Betz, Margaret Osborne, Louise Brough, Doris Hart, Shirley Fry, Althea Gibson, Maria Bueno, Angela Mortimer, Margaret Court, Ann Jones and the five former women's champions who remain on active (if in some cases part-time) service.

FOOTBALL: LONDON CLUBS PREPARE FOR EMOTIONAL EVENINGS

Bonds joins Brooking in farewell

By Clive White

The end of another season, the end of another career. West Ham United's retirement party on the Upton Park pitch next Monday against Everton will now honour not just Trevor Brooking but also his erstwhile captain and colleague, Billy Bonds. But, like old soldiers, Bonds is only fading away.

After celebrating his 600th league game against Arsenal last Monday, he has announced his intention to step down from regular first-team football with two years of his contract left, to concentrate instead on coaching. He will, however, remain a squad member. He said he found at the age of 37 that his enthusiasm, possibly his greatest asset, and concentration were waning.

Bonds, always a fighter, saw himself "in the front line leading the troops on the beaches." He was the sort to stiffen the resolve of colleagues and supporters. He was a winner. Yet he never won an England cap, which was surprising considering the West Ham influence on England teams.

His character was in stark contrast to the soft image West Ham presented, and if they regularly flattered to deceive during his 17 years there in the league, they were a stylish and potent force in cup competition, where in victory or defeat.

Luton Town will also be saying farewell to two old campaigners shortly, the captain, Brian Horton and Raddy Antic. The Yugoslav is retiring to his homeland at the age of 33, but Horton, at 35, believes he still has a couple of seasons left in him. By comparison the career of another Luton player, Paul Walsh, is just beginning, possibly with Manchester United, who completed the sale of Ray Wilkins to AC Milan yesterday.

Wilkins agreed after eight hours of negotiations to accept a £75,000 signing-on fee and a three-year contract worth nearly £600,000 – all for "my family's sake". The proceeds of the sale, after the purchase of Strachan, leaves Ron Atkinson, the manager, with a handy sum of £900,000 with which to "test the market", as he put it, like a cautious broker. The sum fits neatly the size of Walsh's valuation.

Tottenham's latest chapter of sense and insensibility

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

The first leg of the UEFA Cup final covered the ground that lies between triumph and tragedy. The glory belonged to the players, who held mighty Anderlecht to a 1-1 draw on Wednesday night. All they must do to collect the trophy in 12 days is to act sensibly at home. The shame belonged to some of their supporters. Although the trouble inside the stadium was kept to a minimum, it seems far too optimistic to expect these English travellers to behave sensibly abroad.

Police sirens, crying almost continually for two days in the Belgian capital, served as a nauseatingly familiar reminder of how deeply the nation's reputation continues to be soiled by criminals, invariably drunk and disguised as hooligans. No wonder foreign hosts are in fear of them and no wonder the authorities are in despair about them.

Once the hour before such a game tingled with apprehension. Now it crackles with animosity. The pavement outside bars on the outskirts of Brussels were lined with English youths, soaked by the rain and draped in flags. Grasping cans of beer with one fist, they punched the air with the other. Passer-by were taunted by an ugly stream of obscene chants. After they entered the ground, where they were confined behind fences and watched carefully by the police. They turned mercifully into genuine supporters. Heavily outnumbered by their Begian counterparts, they out-shouted them throughout the evening. Douglas Alexiou, Tottenham's chairman, later showed his appreciation by walking to their end of the pitch to return their applause.

Ardiles: could play

But, as in this country, the sickening problem has been stifled in the stadia only to be spread across the surrounding environment. It is there, often outside and beyond even the most comprehensive preparations of the local police, that buildings and humans alike become the targets for attack and the damage is done.

Tottenham know what they must do on the night of May 23 when Perryman, suspended from the second leg, could be replaced by Ardiles, who is now keener than ever to recover from injury in time. There is also a faint possibility that Hoddle might be fit enough to be considered in Keith Burkinshaw's final plans.

But the authorities both here and abroad, seem unable to do anything to solve hooliganism. It is known that UEFA, in their search for a suitable deterrent, are prepared to wield their heaviest weapon and ban the next English side involved. That answer, although perhaps understandable, is both dangerous and misguided.

First, it could encourage some supporters to set out to have a rival club thrown out of European competition. Second, rather than holding club or national officials responsible for the actions of people beyond their control, it would surely be far more appropriate to punish the troublesome individuals themselves – and punish them much more severely than at present.

The season is likely at least to end amid welcome peace. Basle, the location for the Cup Winners Cup final between Juventus and Porto next week, should be spared the fate that befell parts of Brussels. And the followers of Liverpool, England's representatives in the European Cup final in Rome at the end of the month, are noted more for verbal humour than physical thuggery.

Adios, Barcelona, Menotti says

Barcelona (Reuter) – Cesar Luis Menotti, the manager of Barcelona, has confirmed that he will leave the club when his contract expires on June 30. He said that "nothing" could make him change his mind.

Questioned about a reported offer to manage Flamingo, the Brazilian club, he said: "Now I want to rest, but in three months everything could change".

Menotti, who led Argentina to win the 1978 World Cup final, has failed to lift Barcelona to triumphs since he replaced Udo Lattek, the West German manager, last year. Barcelona finished third in the league and lost the cup final 1–0 against Athletic Bilbao, the league champions, last Saturday.

Watford trio picked for England

Watford's influence on England's international thinking was illustrated by the selection of three of their players in the youth squad of 17 to compete in the European Championship in the Soviet Union from May 23 to June 4 (Clive White writes). They are Gibbs, who may play in the FA Cup final on Saturday week, Porter and Williams.

Among those who have made headway in their club's league teams. Dave Sexton, the manager, has chosen Brennan of Ipswich Town, Cooke of Tottenham Hotspur and Suckling of Coventry City. England have been drawn in the same group as the Soviet Union, East Germany and Luxembourg.

SQUAD: P Atkinson (Sunderland); D Bradley (Aston Villa), M Brennan (Ipswich), R Cooke (Tottenham Hotspur), G Cooper (QPR), G Elkins (Fulham), M Forsyth (WBA), N Gibbs (Watford), D Lowe (Wigan), I Marshall (Everton), G Nardiello (Shewsbury), S Parkin (Stoke), G Porter (Watford), E Sheringham (Millwall), P Suckling (Coventry), G Stebbing (Crystal Palace), D Williams (Watford).

● York City's playing squad, their manager Dennis Smith and coach Viv Busby have been invited to their local Knavesmire racecourse next Tuesday by the York executive in honour of their achievement in winning the fourth division title by a record margin, becoming the first club in League history to beat 100 points.

Cox offered new terms by Newcastle board

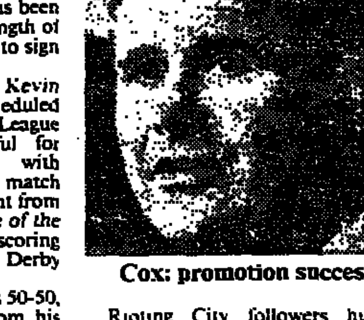
Newcastle United have offered their manager, Arthur Cox, a new contract. The Newcastle directors met within 24 hours of United clinching promotion at Huddersfield on Monday, and Cox has been informed of the terms and length of contract, although he has yet to sign it.

The Newcastle captain Kevin Keegan, may miss what is scheduled to be his 500th Football League appearance. He is doubtful for tomorrow's home game with Brighton and Hove Albion, a match which will mark his retirement from competitive football, because of the head injury he sustained scoring Newcastle's first goal against Derby County last Saturday.

Keegan rates his chances as 50-50, although he travelled up from his Hampshire home to Newcastle yesterday.

● Bristol City intend to hand out their own punishment to supporters involved in the crowd troubles during their fourth division match at Reading on April 7.

An FA commission will hold an inquiry into the riot at Elm Park today, but City have already reached their own conclusions. They plan to ask for a list of supporters found guilty of committing offences in Reading on the day of the match. City will then take out a court injunction banning the troublemakers from future matches involving the club.



Cox: promotion success

Rioting City followers hurled lumps of concrete at police, and the referee, Danny Vickers, took the players off the field for 17 minutes. Eleven police officers were injured and 48 supporters arrested.

● The Aston Villa captain, Allan Evans, is to have an exploratory operation on the knee which has troubled him for much of the season.

The Villa Manager, Tony Barton, has had talks with the chairman, Doug Ellis, about reducing expenditure, and Mr Ellis has again called for a £150,000 wage cut. Baton says it is inevitable players will leave "but it will not be done to the detriment of my first team plans."

Maidstone's strong case for election

By Paul Newman

Maidstone United believe they can become the first club to win election to the Football League since Wigan Athletic in 1978. The Kent club, having won the Alliance Premier League championship, go forward to the Football League's annual meeting next month as the non-League game's candidate for election for the second season in succession.

Last year Maidstone received 26 votes, a record for a club applying for membership for the first time and only 10 fewer than Hartlepool United, the lowest fo the four League clubs in the poll. This year they have good reason to believe they can improve on that performance.

Twelve months ago Maidstone finished runners-up in the Alliance – Enfield, the champions, missed the deadline for submitting their request to stand for election – but this season the Kent club are undisputed champions. Unlike last year they also have a good FA Cup run under their belts, which is often a crucial factor. They beat Exeter City in the first round and eventually went out in the third to Darlington.

Above all, while Maidstone's knock outside the League door is becoming a familiar sound, so is Hartlepool's plea to remain inside: they will be seeking reelection for the fourteenth time and for the fourth in the last eight seasons. Chester and two from Wrexham, Rochdale and Halifax Town will fill the remaining reelection places.

The one blot on Maidstone's copybook has been the recent unseemly struggle for control in their boardroom. Jim Thompson, the energetic businessman who became chairman 15 years ago when Maidstone were a run-down Isthmian League club, was ousted in February while on a business trip to America but hopes to regains his position at the Club's annual meeting today.

The only other doubt League chairman can have about Maidstone is their crowd-pulling capacity. Last season they averaged more than 1,400 for home league games, but this season – perhaps because most of their best performances have been in away matches – the average is down to 1,060. Maidstone believe, however, that the county of Kent could easily support a second League club in addition to Gillingham and that they would average between 2,500 and 3,000 in the fourth division, which by current standards is reasonably healthy

Their attendance on Saturday – 2,502 people saw then win the Alliance championship by beating Telford United 6-0 – was better than eight in the League. Hartlepool's home game against Stockport County on the same day was watched by a crowd of 790, the lowest in the League for 10 years.

Maidstone, moreover, would not need a big improvement in gates to pay for fourth division football, as their players would remain part-time. Bill Williams, the manager, a former centre-half who ended a lengthy League career at Gillingham, believes he already has the nucleus of a good fourth division side.

The strength of Maidstone's case and the weakness of Hartlepool's look certain to ensure a close contest at next month's election. The fact that both are going to the polls for the second year in succession could just swing the vote Maidstone's way.

Sponsors aim to encourage Alliance goals

The Alliance Premier League yesterday announced the biggest sponsorship in the history of semi-professional football (Paul Newman writes). Gola, the British sportswear company, are to put £250,000 into the league over the next three years.

The sponsorship is intended to encourage attacking football. A fund of £2,500 will be distributed each month among the club scoring the most goals and all those scoring three goals in away games and four goals in home games. Money will also be made available to encourage youth football.

Stuart Lamb, the chairman of Gola, said: "The real strength of football is not at the level of the Liverpools and Manchester Uniteds. It is at this mid-level of football and among youngsters, and we are delighted to be involved in it."

● Paul Bence, the coach of Wokingham Town, is to succeed Mike Keen as manager of another Isthmian League club, Wycombe Wanderers.

RUGBY UNION

Travellers with a tradition

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

England's under-23 side leave for a three-match tour of Spain today, following the pattern recently established by the parties which visited Italy (1982) and Romania (1983). Of the six matches played on those two tours, five were won, the only defeat coming against the senior Italian side at the end of the 1982 tour.

Spain should not prove so testing, though the playing conditions may prove novel to the English. Wales found this to be so when their B party visited Spain last year but had no trouble winning all their games, the closing match against the senior Spanish side by 65-16, although the Spanish three-quarters indicated some of the pace and flair one associates with their neighbours in France.

The only doubt about the tour surrounds the timing, since so many of the eligible players are students and engaged in examinations just now.

ENGLAND UNDER-23 TOUR PARTY: S Hodgkinson (Nottingham), S Hogg (Bristol), B Evans (Leicester), G Halsey (Harlequins), J Goodwin (Mosley), R Knibbs (Bristol), R Lozowski (Wasps), K Simms (Cambridge University), R Andrew (Cambridge University), R Cramb (Harleqins), R Moon (Abertillery), A Woodhouse (Harlequins), P Essenhigh (Blackheath), S Redfern (Leicester), G Smith (Moseley), J Ward (Nottingham), B Moore (Nottingham), C Tressler (Leicester), R Kimmins (Orrell), J Morrison (Bath), N Redman (Bath), P Buckton (Liverpool, captain), J Wells (Leicester), D Pegler (Wasps), M Wyatt (Bristol), M Rose (Wasps)
ITINERARY: May 12, Basque XV (San Sebastian); 16 Catalan XV (Barcelona); 20, Spain (Seville).

Romania is geared up for Scots

By Iain Mackenzie

Scotland's tour of Romania begins today. The Romanians have beaten France five times in the last seven visits to Bucharest and last November on the same day that Scotland were drawing 25-all with New Zealand at Murrayfield Romania beat Wales 24-6 with the try score of four-nil.

Since then Romania have lost to the French in Toulouse and Italy at Aquila. That suggests that they are more fallible away from home. On their own pitches, usually hard and often dusty, they are a different proposition.

They have been training hard for the Scottish visit. Romania do not have a long rugby tradition and they are determined to compensate by showing the International Board countries that they are at least equal to the prevailing standards.

They are aware that Scotland won the Grand Slam last season with a side which was founded during the tour of New Zealand in 1981. This makes them all the more determined to win the international in Bucharest on May 20.

The team have not changed much from that which lost to Scotland at Murrayfield three years ago by four penalty goals to two. Eleven of that team played against Wales and there is experience in depth.

An additional problem for Scotland is that Colin Deans, Iain Milne and Iain Paxton, who were in the Grand Slam team, are unavailable, and Jim Calder and Roger Baird, who were also in that side have dropped out because of injury

RUGBY LEAGUE

Division is regionalized

By Keith Macklin

The second division of the League will be split into eastern and western sections next season, following a fixtures meeting in Leeds.

There has been strong support for some change in the divisions system following yet another season in which first division attendances held up, while second division gates showed a disturbing decline, particularly among the less successful clubs.

The admission of Sheffield and Mansfield into the second division next season gives a lower division of 20 clubs. This would have meant a total of 38 fixures home and away for clubs.

Next season the first division will remain at 16 clubs, but the second division will be regionalized. There will be an eastern zone of 10 clubs, mostly in Yorkshire and the Pennines, and a western zone composed mainly of clubs in Lancashire, Cheshire, Greater Manchester and Cumbria.

The zoned clubs will play each other home and away, giving 18 fixtures. The top five in each zone will play each other hoem and away, and the bottom five likewise, giving a total of 28 fixtures in all.

At the end of the season promotion and relegation will remain the same, four up and four down, with the top four clubs in the second division, regardless of original zoning, going up.

● A new three-year contract worth £240,000 was agreed yesterday between the Rugby League and John Player Special, sponsors of the trophy competition. The event, launched in 1972, will carry prize money of £75,000 next season – and increase of 25 per cent.

CRICKET: RAIN HITS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Scraps for a selector as batsmen feast the old-fashioned way

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

SOUTHAMPTON: Gloucestershire, with all their second innings wickets in hand, are 143 runs ahead of Hampshire.

When rain stopped play here yesterday, with 10 of the 117 overs unbowled, one wicket had fallen for 328 runs. The batsman to enjoy themselves were the two opening pairs Smith and Terry of Hampshire and Stovold and Romaines of Gloucestershire.

Taking the quality of the pitch into account, as well as the bowling of the two sides, Pocock decided in mid-afternoon that a declaration, while still 38 runs behind, gave Hampshire their best chance of victory. It made fair sense, even if his later batsmen did feel deprived.

In many ways, the match has been a throw-back to the Forties and early Fifties. As such, it has made a welcome change from the daily diet of five-minute overs and short-pitched bowling. Yesterday's over rate met comfortably enough the TCCB's yardstick os 18 an hour.

Except for Lawrence, who is quite brisk, there was no bowling of above medium pace. There were no bouncers to speak of, and no superfluous appeals. There was also plenty of spin. Except that there were no leg breaks, this was what cricket used to be like.

For Hampshire's first wicket, Smith and Terry came within 27 runs of beating the county record, the 249 added by Marshall and Gray against Middlesex at Portsmouth in 1950. Smith made his first hundred of the season, Terry his second. There were one or two alarms early on, at slip and gully, but nothing that should clearly have been caught. Smith set the pace, scoring mostly off his legs and "sniffing" the ball as the watchful batsman does. His hundred, reached in three hours and a half, was his second in succession against Gloucestershire.

As on Wednesday, the England selectors were represented, this time by Alan Smith. With no one able to simulate Holding or Marshall or any of those, he was not much the wiser at the end of the day about how his namesake C. L., copes with the fiercely rising ball, if that was what he come to find out. Like Alec Bedser on Wednesday, he also had no real chance of another look at Nicholas.

When the Hampshire No 3 came in, A. C. was on the telephone to Lord's; by the time his call was finished, Pocock had declared. On these occasions selectors glean what they can from other sources, such as umpires and county coaches, and make notes for future reference, such as that Russell, Gloucestershire's wicketkeeper, has a good pair of hands. Stovold can still whack the ball around and Romaines bats nicely.

Terry has a good, upright, English method. He spent some time in the second XI, waiting his chance. Now that it has come he should be good enough to take it. In Hampshire, they are looking forward eagerly to next year, when they will have Greenidge and two Smiths (the younger, Robin will be eligible by then), Nicholas, Jesty, Pocock and Marshall to bat for them. They could win something then. This season, they will be pleased with such days as yesterday, when they were not under pressure.

Nothing was more striking about Terry's hundred than the way he reached it. Dale was purveying off spin, not especially searchingly. Getting wind, perhaps, of an impending declaration, Terry went from 92 to 104 by driving him twice in the same over for six. Nicholas had just shown him how.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings First Innings 290 (A J Wright 74, R C Russell 63; T M Tremlett 5 for 48)

Second Innings* A W Stovold not out	45
P W Romaines not out	53
Extras (l-b 7)	7
Total (no wkt)	105

C W J Athey, Zaheer Abbas, A J Wright, *D A Graveney, J N Shepherd, †R C Russell, C Dale, D V Lawrence and G E Sainsbury to bat.

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings

V P Terry not out	105
C L Smith c Russell b Graveney	125
M C J Nicholas not out	10
Extras (b 6, l-b 2, n-b 4)	12
Total (1 wkt dec, 82 overs)	252

T E Jesty, *N E J Pocock, N G Cowley, †R J Parks, T M Tremlett, R J Maru, E Reiffer and S J Malone did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–223.

BOWLING: Lawrence 18-2-58-0; Sainsbury 13-3-27-0; Shepherd 14-5-34-0; Dale 18-4-65-0; Athey 5-1-16-0; Graveney 14-2-40-1.

Bonus points: Hampshire 7, Gloucestershire 3.

Umpires: W E Alley and J H Harris.




Short fuse: another explosive pull from Smith (Photograph: Chris Cole)

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire 216 (P Johnson 61, D J R Martindale 50 not out, S Oldham 4 for 59) and 47 for 5 (S Oldham 4 for 17); Yorkshire 115 (S J Rhodes 56, D Fraser-Darling 5 for 59, M K Bore 4 for 12).

Miller testimonial

Derbyshire have awarded a testimonial next season to Geoff Miller, their England all-rounder.

Lancashire make heavy weather of reply

By Peter Ball

OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire, with eight first innings wickets in hand, are 200 behind Kent.

Rain and then a leaking cover, which left a large wet patch just in front of one popping crease, reduced play by 63 overs yesterday. Lancashire made heavy weather of what play was possible, as only a late flurry in the evening sun took their scoring rate above 1.5 an over.

Kent had made batting look a very difficult business on Wednesday morning, but yesterday morning Lancashire made it look downright impossible, scoring 32 runs in a session which lost 20 minutes to rain.

By lunch, howeer they were in rather better shape than Kent had been, losing only two wickets, as opposed to four. Kent had only themselves to blame, Ormond being dropped three times at first slip on his way to nine in 115 minutes. Two, off Alderman and Underwood, were difficult chances. The third, off Jarvis's last ball before rain intervened for the first time, was straightforward.

Jarvis, who had the consolation of removing O'Shaughbessy as he played forward down the wrong line, bowled as well as, and possibly a little better than, Lancashire's supporting seam bowler. But Alderman, in spite of an opening stint of 8-5-3-0 pn his first championship appearance, did not look as penetrative as Allott had done.

Progress was marginally quicker afterwards until rain set in seriously, the players going off at 2.25. When they returned at six o'clock, Underwood's withdrawl after two over signified Kent' view of things and Ormrod, who had reached 20 before the break, emerged from his coma, to celebrate with his first two boundaries of the day.

The arrival of Underwood, however, saw the end of Fowler, beaten on the drive by the spin bowler's faster ball, and until lunch Lancashire's innings retired into inertia.

KENT: First Innings 296 (C Penn 115, G W Johnson 50, S N V Waterton 50; P J W Allott 5 for 56)

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

G Fowler b Underwood	18
J A Ormrod not out	40
S J O'Shaughnessy b Jarvis	0
*J Abrahams not out	
Extras (l-b 4, n-b 3).	7
Total (2 wkts, 54 overs)	96

D P Hughes, C Maynard, S T Jefferies, S M N Zaidi, I Folley, P J W Allott and L L McFarlane to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–26, 2–27.

Bonus points (to date): Lancashire 3, Kent 3.

Umpires: R Palmer and J A Jameson.

Sussex put pressure on Surrey

By Marcus Williams

HOVE: Sussex, with two first innings wickets in hand, are 82 runs ahead of Surrey.

Sussex consolidated their advantage over Surrey thanks to two fruitful partnerships on an abbreviated day yesterday. Greig and Gould thrashed 62 runs at more than six an over for the seventh wicket and Le Roux and Reeve, an accomplished number 10, 48 more sedately for the ninth, as 126 runs were added in 30 overs in a lively evening session.

Bad light, and persistent drizzle had taken four hours and 25 minutes out of the day and ironically produced the fastest over rate of the match; for while the bowlers have averaged around 16 an hour, the rain sends them down at 18 an hour under the new regulations. Play resumed at 4.55 accompanied briefly by sun, and Alan Wells soon fell, but Greig and Gould batted in swashbuckling style as Surrey had to contend initially with a wet ball. When Clarke pitched short, Greig cut and pulled him: when he pitched up, he was driven straight to the boundary four tims in one over.

The fun ended with Gould, glancing, caught by Richards and next over Greig, having struck eight powerful fours, hit Knight tamely to cover. Clarke vented his displeasure on Le Roux with a series of bouncers and when Feltham replaced him, his 10 overs had cost 56 runs.

In 30 minutes at the start before the interruption Barclay had completed a good 50, and Sussex lost two wickets. Colin Wells was caught behind off the bottom edge and in the next over Barclay was bowled as he tried to turn the ball to leg.

SURREY: First Innings 179 (G S le Roux 4 for 41)

SUSSEX: First Innings

G D Mendis c Howarth b Clarke	18
D K Standing l-b-w b Feltham	7
*J R T Barclay b Monkhouse	51
P W G Parker c Clarke b Knight	39
C M Wells c Richards b Clarke	7
A P Wells l-b-w b Clarke	6
I A Greig c Lynch b Knight	48
†I J Gould c Richards b Clarke	21
G S le Roux not out	14
D A Reeve not out	32
Extras (b 1, l-b 7, n-b 10)	18
Total (8 wkts, 81 overs)	261

C E Waller to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–27, 2–29, 3–118, 4–133, 5–133, 6–149, 7–211, 8–213.

Bonus points: (to date) Sussex 7, Surrey 4.

Umpires: B Dudleston and A G T Whitehead.

Oxford dispel the fears

By Alan Gibson

THE PARKS: Oxford University, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 162 runs behind Middlesex.

It looked like the same old story when Oxford lost their night watchman, Hewitt, caught bat and pad off Williams, in the second over yesterday. Well, here we go, we said, follow-on in the middle of the afternoon, looking for early trains. Not a bit of it, I am pleased to say.

Williams and Hughes bowled well enough, and Emburey, when he came for a long nagging spell, even better. But Edbrooke from Hertford and Toogood from Lincoln (both colleges in the Turl, which in my time was regarded as a neglible area for athletic purposes) made a splendid stand of 110.

Middlesex did drop several catches, none of them too difficult, but the terrors of the Turl kept banging the ball around, and were not separated until Edbrooke was caught at forward short leg.

When Toogood was leg before at 175, the question of the follow-on, which had been remote, suddenly returned. Middlesex crowded the bat, scenting some time off tomorrow. But Thorne and Franks held on until tea, by which time Oxford were 197 for six, needing only 13, with 83 overs bowled.

Then, at tea, it began to rain. It had been a pleasant sunny morning, and we did not take the light drizzle too seriously to begin with, but it grew heavy and relentless. It was a depressing end to the day, and it had been a depressing beginning too, for The Star had been narrowly beaten by The Butcher's Arms in the Chew Valley shove-halfpenny cup. My informants tell me we had shocking luck, and were dead out of form. Neither of these considerations applied to Oxford.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings 359 for 6 dec (W N Slack 145, M W Gatting 102 not out; M D Petchey 4 for 65)

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings

M R Cullinan run out	0
R M Edbrooke c Slack b Emburey	66
S Hewitt c Slack b Williams	2
G J Toogood l-b-w b Emburey	68
*K A Hayes c Slack b Hughes	5
J D Carr c Emburey b Williams	12
D A Thorne not out	25
†J G Franks not out	4
Extras (b1, l-b 3, w 1, n-b 10)	
Total (5wkts)	187

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–3, 2–19, 3–129, 4–136, 5–156, 6–175.

Umpires: A A Jones and D O Oslear.

Cambridge University v Warwickshire

AT FENNER'S

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings 181 (N Gifford 4 for 52)

Second Innings

A E Lea not out	7
T Travers not out	11
Extras (l-b 4)	4
Total (no wkt)	22

S N Siddiqi, M N Breddy, D G Price, †A G Davies, A K Golding, *I G Peck, T A Cotterell, A D H Grimes and P Garlick to bat.

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings

T A Lloyd, c Davies, b Grimes	21
K D Smith, b Garlick	27
A I Kallicharran, b Golding	180
D L Amiss, b Siddiqi	54
† G W Humpage, b Siddiqi	21
G J Lord, b Siddiqi	4
A M Ferreira, c and b Siddiqi	0
C Lethbridge, c Davies, b Golding	48
C M Old, c Grimes, b Siddiqi	10
G C Small, not out	0
Extras (b 4, l-b 2, w 1)	7
Total (9 wkts dec)	370

*Gifford did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–39, 2–87, 3–208, 4–272, 5–278, 6–278, 7–331, 8–370, 9–370.

BOWLING: Garlick, 23-3-104-1; Grimes, 17-6-24-1; Cotterell, 9-0-45-0; Golding, 26.1-3-100-2; Siddiqi, 23-6-90-5.

Umpires: B Leadbeater and P B Wight.

Bairstow brightens up a day of fitful rain

By Richard Streeton

HEADINGLEY: Nottinghamshire, with all first innings wickets in hand, are 296 runs behind Yorkshire.

Two brief periods of cricket, totalling 25 minutes, were enough yesterday for Yorkshire to obtain a fourth batting bonus point. They then declared, but only 10 balls were possible when Nottinghamshire went in before rainstorms prevented further play. Bairstow, as batsman and captain, has done everything possible so far but there will have to be a great deal of collusion now if the teams are to get a definite result.

Yorkshire, resuming at 173 for four, lost Love straight away to a catch at cover, but Carrick stayed as his captain hit freely. Bairstow's strokes included a straight six against Rice, a reminder of his partiality quick bowling. There is a justifiably strong belief in the Ridings that England should only look in one direction if they want a wicketkeeper-batsman for this summers one day matches.

The Yorkshire total was 293 when rain brought the first stoppage for 75 minutes. After the brief resumption, the umpires waited until tea-time before giving up hope.

YORKSHIRE: First Innings

G Boycott run out	73
M D Moxon c Cooper b Rice	3
R G Lumb b Saxelby	28
K Sharp b Saxelby	64
J D Love c Robinson b Hadlee	49
†D L Bairstow not out	62
P Carrick not out	3
Extras (b 2, l-b 6, w 4, n-b 7)	19
Total (5 wkts dec, 90.5 overs)	301

A Sidebottom, I G Swallow, S J Dennis and S D Fletcher did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–10, 2–59, 3–175, 4–187, 5–277.

BOWLING: Hadlee 18.5–4–62–1; Rice 18–3–55–1; Cooper 26–9–63–0; Saxelby 23–7–80–2, Hemmings 5–0–22–0.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

B C Broad not out	5
R T Robinson not out	0
Total (no wkt, 1.4 overs)	5

D W Randall, *C E B Rice, J D Birch, B Hassan, R J Hadlee, †B N French, E E Hemmings, K Saxelby and K E Cooper to bat.

Bonus points (to date): Yorkshire 4, Nottinghamshire 2.

Umpires: H D Bird and J W Holder.



Hardie: out for 99

Agnew finds new life in new season

LEICESTER: Worcestershire, with four first innings wickets in hand, are 112 runs behind Leicestershire.

Rain halted Leicestershire's progress at lunch yesterday. Worcestershire were struggling at 144 for six when play was abandoned for the day. Agnew, who took only 23 first class wickets last year, increased this season's haul to 21 with three for 41 from ten overs. He dismissed Curtis with the fifth ball of the day, then accounted for Weston and Smith and saw Neale dropped at slip.

Cook then took the next three wickets. Only Patel and D Oliveira offered some resistance before falling.

Leicestershire: First Innings 256 for 9 dec (M A Garnham 57 not out)

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

M J Weston l-b-w b Agnew	25
T S Curtis c Garnham b Agnew	6
D M Smith b Agnew	14
D N Patel c Haysman b Cook	30
*P A Neal c Garnham b Cook	5
D B D'Oliveira c Willey b Cook	21
†D J Humphries not out	20
R K Illingworth	2
Extras (b 3, l-b 7, w 4, n-b 7)	21
Total (6 wkts, 53 overs)	144

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–17, 2–47, 3–70, 4–93, 5–96, 6–142.

Bonus points (to date): Leicestershire 4 Worcestershire 3.

Umpires: R Julian and M J Kitchen.

OTHER MATCH

LORD'S: MCC 246 for 3 dec (R T Hart 103, Saiq Mohammad 56 not out, M E Gear 52); MCC Young Cricketers 105 for 4, (G K Brown 46 not out, M Blackett 40). Drawn.

Gladwin and Hardie fall in the nineties

NORTHAMPTON: Essex, with three first innings wickets in hand, lead Northamptonshire by 139 runs

Chris Gladwin and Brian Hardie were out when approaching their centuries as Essex piled on the runs

Essex reached 349 for seven when rain stopped play just before tea, leaving them well placed. Hardie and Pringle put on 100 for the fifth wicket and Pringle raised the 300 with a six off Williams.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings 210 (D J Capel 51; N A Foster 6 for 79).

ESSEX: First Innings

G A Gooch b Mallender	1
C Gladwin l-b-w b Mallender	94
*K W R Fletcher b Mallender	5
K S McEwan c Sharp b Hanley	68
B R Hardie l-b-w b Hanley	99
D R Pringle c Steele b Hanley	25
S Turner not out	13
†D E East c Lamb b Mallender	7
N A Foster not out	5
Extras (n b 9, l-b 11, w 1, n-b 11)	32
Total (7 wkts)	349

J K Lever and D Acfield to bat.

Score at 100 overs: 341 for 7.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–2, 2–17, 3–145, 4–213, 5–313, 6–316, 7–341.

Bonus points: Northamptonshire 5, Essex 8.

Umpires: P J Eele and K E Palmer.

Today's fixtures

CRICKET

11 0 to 5.30 or 6.0

County Championship

DERBY: Derbyshire v Glamorgan
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Gloucestershire
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Kent
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Worcestershire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Essex
HOVE: Sussex v Surrey
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire

Other matches

FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Warwickshire
THE PARKS: Oxford University v Middlesex

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP

Heanor: Derbyshire v Glamorgan; Leyton: Essex v Kent; Blackburn: Lancashire v Northamptonshire; Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Yorkshire; Taunton: Somerset v Warwickshire; Eastbourne: Sussex v Surrey.

FOOTBALL

Fourth division

Halifax Town v Colchester United (7.30).

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT: Indoor Championships (Crystal Palace NSC, 5.15).

Derbyshire slip as Steele hits right spot

DERBY: Derbyshire, with three first innings wickets in hand, are 36 runs ahead of Glamorgan.

John Steele, Glamorgan's new slow left-arm bowler, put his side back into contention against Derbyshire, before rain washed out play after lunch. He took three wickets for only eight runs in nine overs including Wright, the New Zealand Test opener, who was top scorer with 67.

Derbyshire collapsed from 124 for three to 143 for seven

GLAMORGAN: First Innings 144 (G Miller 6 for 30).

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

*K J Barnett c Davies b Davis	17
J G Wright c Jones b Steele	67
I S Anderson c Davies b Davis	13
A Hill l-b-w b Davis	3
J H Hampshire c Hopkins b Davis	18
G Miller c Jones b Steele	5
W P Fowler not out	30
R J Finney c Selvey b Steele	0
P G Newman not out	10
Extras (b 4, l-b 2, w 3, n-b 8)	17
Total (7 wkts, 58 overs)	180

†R W Taylor and O H Mortensen to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–29, 2–48, 3–61, 4–124, 5–137, 6–143, 7–143.

Bonus points (to date): Derbyshire 5, Glamorgan 3.

Umpires: N T Plews and R A White.

GOLF



Clark: On course for joint lead (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Clark set fair after weathering storm

By Mitchell Platts

Howard Clark survived conditions which at times were almost Arctic to share the lead following the first round of the Car Care Plan International at Moortown yesterday. Clark put together a one under par 68, which was equalled only by Craig Maltman, Bernhard Langer of West Germany, and Manuel Montes of Spain. Nick Faldo and Sandy Lyle, who played at either end of the day, both returned scores of 69.

Winning the Madrid Open two weeks ago has worked wonders for Clark's confidence. He covered the treacherous stretch from the 10th to the 15th without dropping a shot despite being battered by a series of squalls. That left the Yorkshireman three under par, following an outward half of 31 in which he had four birdies, but he dropped shots at two of the last three holes. Even so, it was a sterling effort. He regarded it as his finest round at Moortown, which is only three miles from his home.

Langer, too, felt uncomfortable as the temperature suddenly dropped. That was hardly surprising since he dressed in the morning for a summer's day with short-sleeved shirt and a thin sweater. The West German, however, restricted himself to 29 putts, including one of 35ft for a two at the 12th for one of his three birdies.

"Ladies and gentlemen, you are allowed to applaud," barked the official starter after Faldo's prodigious opening drive which raised barely a ripple of sound from the spectators. Gradually, however, Faldo earnd their approval and appreciation with his repertoire of shots.

His two iron to get up at the second (457 yards), when the wind was blowing straight into his face, was typical of the precise and decisive manner in which he now strikes every stroke. His putting, however, lacked its usual authority, although, to be fair, he must have found the variable greens somewhat foreign after four months on the consistent American courses.

On the eve of the tournament, Maltman telephoned the respected psychologist Phil Fearn, and was advised to relax and enjoy his round. This advice was reflected in the manner in which he recovered following a six at the 11th (443 yards), where he took two to escape from a bunker. Maltman swallowed his disappointment, making a birdie two at the next and another at the short 14th where he left a seven iron tee shot only eight inches away from the hole and a £10,000 prize.

But that was not quite the shot of the day. Paul Hoad's 149-yard eight iron at the 18th earned that accolade when it disappeared into the hole for an eagle two. The reward was a £5,000 prize on offer from the sponsors, which prompted Alan Longmate, their managing director, to remark: "I had only been on the course two minutes when it happened. I feel as if I've had my pocket picked!"

Leading scores

68: C Maltman; M Montes (Sp); H Clark; B Langer (WG).
69: C Moody; N Faldo, J Hawkes (SA); E Darcy; G Brand jnr; C O'Connor jnr.
70: M Mackenzie; J Anderson (Can); I Mosey; P Hoad; K Brown; S Keppler; J Bland (SA); S Hadfield.

Amateur investigation

The rapid growth in the popularity of golf throughout the world, allied to its commercial sources, has led to the Royal and Ancient announcing the formation of a special commission to inquire into the nature of amateurism in the game (Mitchell Platts writes).

Evidence from the players, including professionals, has provided the basis of a belief on the part of the Royal and Ancient that the retention of amateur status is fundamental to the nature and spirit of the game.

The commission know that there is evidence that some of the 65 countries which come under the umbrella of the R&A have difficulty interpreting the gradual changes that have taken place in recent years.

So initially the Commission will approach those Golf Unions and Associations affilliated to the R&A to ascertain their views, and those of individuals, before completing the report which is expected to be submitted to the general committee in the early part of 1985.

For instance, the consultation between the Swedes, whose amateur team has received support from a motor company, and the R&A has been extremely close. The Swedes, however, are regarded as the fastest moving ship in the convoy and as such, their outlook is of particular interest.

Quite simply, there are counties, teams and individuals who have required financial assistance in order to be able to move around the world seeking the right kind of competition with which to improve.

So while there is no question at this stage of golf going "open" there could be a more liberal approach so that the rules create a more flexible framework in which to work.

Nobody wants to see amateurs turning professional simply because they have insufficient funds to be able to keep playing. For a large number of golfers who take that step, find that within a couple of years thay would like their amatur status back.

BOXING

Bruno has Weaver waiting in the corner

Mike Weaver, former holder of the World Boxing Association (WBA) version of the world heavyweight title, has agreed terms to meet Frank Bruno at Wembley Arena in September. The contest is conditional on Bruno beating James "Bonecrusher" Smith of America convincingly on Sunday, Mike Barrett, the promoter, said yesterday.

The contest would be partly financed by Home Box Office, the leading American cable television company. Their contribution could be up to one million dollars, provided Bruno makes a big imprssion in Sunday's bout, which NBC are showing in America on Sunday, Barrett said.

"Bruno will be going into a sellers' market. They are hungry for good heavyweight fights in America, and they are prepared to pay accordingly" he added. "His manager, Terry Lawless, is ready to take him off the leash with a view to fighting for the world heavyweight title in 1985.

weaver, 32 years-old from Gatesville, north Carolina, is currently number three on the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight list, five years after his first world title fight in which Larry Holmes stopped him in 12 rounds. He won the WBA championship in March 1980

Colin Jones who twice lost narrow points decision to McCrory, had a question mark over his career last month when he failed the British Boxing Board of Control's eye test. But yesterday he was granted his licence after presenting three independent reports from eye specialists to the board in London.

Eddie Thomas, his manager, said: "Collin is the No 1 challenger again for the world title so McCrory must give him another chance after August."

Jimmy Price, determined to bounce back into the British middleweight title scene, starts his campaign against Stacey McSwain, of America, at Bloomsbury on May 31.

The 22 year-old Liverpool fighter lost his 12-fight unbeaten record last month within 90 seconds of stepping in the ring against Ayub Kalule.

Comeback holds no fears for Leonard

Worcester, Massachusetts (Reuter) – Two years and two days after major eye surgery, and 27 months after his last bout, Sugar Ray Leonard returns to the ring tonight, in what he describes as the most significant bout of his illustrious career.

In the most celebrated comeback since Muhammad Ali's return in 1978, following a three-year excile, Leonard will meet Kevin Howard in a 10-round junior welterweight contest.

There is still widespread concern over Leonard's eyes, but he has no misgivings. He said: "I'm coming back because my doctors have assured me that my eyes are as good as ever, because I know I'm going to get even better as a fighter, because I'm a competitive person who misses what I love most and because I have goals that still have not been met."

While training for a defence of his undisputed welterweight title against Roger Stafford, in May 1982, Leonard underwent surgery for a detached retina of his left eye. Six months later he announced his retirement from boxing.

During preparations last February for his bout against Howard, a corrective procedure was performed on Leonard's right eye.

Howard, a rugged welterweight from Philadelphia, who was ranked in the top 10 years ago, was hand picked by the former champion's trainer, Angelo Dundee. He hopes Howard will provide a good test for Leonard – but no risk – and serve as a barometer to judge whether Leonard needs another bout before an anticipated fight with Marvin Hagler, the undisputed world middleweight champion.

Howard is a boxer with a brawling style and a reputaton for being cavalier about training, but he has worked hard for the Leonard contest without accepting his role as a bit player. "He has called me a stepping stone, and I don't like that," Howard said.

Howard has won 19 and lost four of his professional bouts, with one draw. Two of his defeats have come in his last four contests.

CYCLING

Russians are coming

By John Wilcockson

Yuri Kashirin, of the Soviet Union, the winner in 1979 and 1982, returns to the Milk Race in two weeks' time, with high hopes of winning for a third time. Kashirin, from Rostov, was a strong candidate for a gold medal at the Olympic Games, in the 100km team time trial, before the Soviet Union announced they were pulling out.

Kashirin will be accompanied by the three men with whom he won the 100km world championship last year, Oleg Chouzda, Sergei Novolokin and Alexander Zinoviev. Chouzda was the second best man in the Soviet team during the Milk Race two years ago, and his climbing ability could make him a potential winner on this year's route, which contains 37 hills in the climbers' competition.

The Russians have also named their strongest individual rider, Sergei Voronin, who two weeks ago came second in the Giro delle Reggione, a six-day Italian race which had entries from 30 countries this year. That event was won by a Czechoslovakian, Jiri Skoda, but he has not been included in his country's Milk Race formation.

Czechoslovakia will be led by Michael Clasa, who was sixth in the Milk Race last year, when he led his team to victory in the absence of the Soviet Union. A third team announced yesterday was that of West Germany. Only Werner Wueller, who was a stage winner, competed last year

The Milk Race begins at Brighton on May 26, and traces an 1,100-mile route, to the traditional finish in Blackpool on June 9. Half of the 12 stages take place on steep mountain roads.



Millar: second leg win

Millar on the ascent

Crans-Montana, Switzerland, (Agencies) – The Scot Robert Millar took over the leader's jersey after winning yesterday's 100-mile second stage of the Tour de Romandie. The Belgian, Alfons de Wolf, who had led after Wednesday's stage, was not among the top 10 finishers.

Millar, attacked midway through the first of two climbs to this mountain resort, to build a commanding 90-second lead that was only narrowed by Pascal and a pack of nine others near the finish.

Second stage: 1, R Millar (GB), 5hr 28min 16sec; 2, P Simon (Fr), 22sec behind; 3, S Rooks (Neth), 4, L Fignon (Fr); 5, E Caritoux (Fr); 6, N Ruettimann (Switz). Other British placing: 9, S Roche, same time. Overall: 1, Millar 11hr 45min 13sec; 2, Fignon sec behind; 3, Roche 10sec; 4, Simon 13sec; 5, C Mottet (Fr) 18sec; 6, Rooks 20sec.

SQUASH RACKETS

Super League arrives

By Colin McQuillan

A £100,000 sponsorship deal will link local leagues this year in a pyramid framework leading to a new national Premier League.

American Express, the credit card and travel organization, will support the 39 county leagues throughout Britain, as well as taking over sposorship of the SRA national league finals, which will be held this weekend at Ilkeston.

Most important for the development of squash, however, is the creation of a Premier League, which will feature the 10 top clubs in the country in a home-and-away Tuesday evening competition throughout the season. One non-British player will be allowed in each club team and local team

Promotion and relegation of two clubs each year will guarantee connection between the "super league" and the country leagues, according to the SRA chief executive, Bob Morris, who welcomed the development as "as genuine breakthrough for the game

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: New York Yankees 11, Chicago White Sox 4; Seattle Mariners 4, Oakland Athletics 1; Baltimore Orioles 7, Toronto Blue Jays 4 (and 7-3); Chicago White Sox 7, Milwaukee Brewers 6 (and 5-4); Detroit Tigers 3, Kansas City Royals 1; Boston Red Sox 2, Texas Rangers 0; Minnesota Twins 5, California Angels 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago Cubs 7, Los Angeles Dodgers 0; Cincinnati Reds 6, Montreal Expos 4; New York Mets 3, Atlanta Braves 1; San Diego Padres 3, St Louis Cardinals 2; Houston Astros 7, Philadelphia Phillies 1.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Best-of-seven series: Boston Celtics 121, New York Knicks 99 (Boston leads series 3-2).

BOXING

WELLINGTON: Amateur International: Ireland bt New Zealand 5-2. Results (Ireland first): Bantamweight: R Nash bt J Wallace, pts; Feather: B Lowe bt B Meehan, pts; Light: B Catney lost to C Hunia, pts; Light-welter: B McClean lost to M Sykes, pts; Welter: B O'Hara bt P Graham, pts; Light-middle: S Storey bt M Flavell, rtd, second round; Middle: G Storey bt P Rackley, pts.

YACHTING

LA ROCHELLE, France: World Flying Dutchman championship: Second race: 1, L Delage and T Poirey (Fr); 2, J Schoenherr and M Poulson (Den); 3, Jorgen and Jacob Moller (Den); 4, M Bouet and B Gandolphe (Fr); 5, S Richer and F Narbonne (Fr); 6, A Schwarz and P Froeschi (WG). British placing: 8, J Turner and K Richardson.

SALOU, Spain: European 470 Championships: Second race: 1, P Koskull and J Koskull (Fin); 2, S Brokman and E Friedlander (Israeel); 3, J Oetken and S Oetken (WG).

SQUASH RACKETS

SINGAPORE: First round: P Kenyon (Eng) bt Fahim Gul (Pak) 9-6, 2-9, 9-2, 9-4; R Norman (NZ) bt A Aziz (Egypt) 9-7, 9-3, 9-7; Maqsood Ahmad (Pak) bt R Hill (Aus) 9-5, 9-4, 9-1; S Davenport (NZ) bt P Hill (Sing) 9-3, 9-3, 9-4.

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Norwich 5, Swindon 0.
MIDWEEK LEAGUE: Northampton 0, Peterborough 1.

CYCLING

MAGDEBURG: East Berlin–Prague–Warsaw Peace Race: First leg: (East Berlin–Magdeburg, 170km) leading stage places: 1, U Raab (EG) 4hr 37sec; 2, A Novosad (CZ) 4:00:43; 3, O Ludwig (EG) 4:00:46. British stage placings: 34, S Sefton 4:00:49; 71, A Gornall; 76, T Harris; 77, H Ashworth all the same time; 99, D Smith 4:02:59; 101, V Smith 4:03:15.
Overall placings: 1, U Raab 4hr 9min 23sec; 2, P Agryumev (USSR) 4:09:34; 3, N Staikov (BUL) 4:09:37. British placings: 39, Gornall 44sec behind; 47, Harris 46sec; 60 Sefton 57sec; 72, Ashworth 1:04min; 100, D Smith 3:07min; 103, V SMITH 3:24min.
Leading team placings: 1, East Germany 10hr 2min 25sec; 2, Netherlands 10:2:27; 3, West Germany same time. Overall team placings: 1 Soviet Union 12:28:59 hr; 2, East Germany one second behind; 3, Bulgaria 23 seconds behind; 11, Britain 1.37min behind.
CRANS–MONTANA: Tour de Romandie: Second stage: 1, R Millar (GB) 5hr 28min 16sec; 2, P Simon (Fr) 22sec behind; 3, S Rooks (Neth); 4, L Fignon (Fr); 5, E Caritoux (Fr); 6, N Ruettimann (Switz). Overall: 1, Millar 11hr 45min 13sec; 2, Fignon 2sec behind; 3, S Roche (Ire) 0:10; 4, Simon 0:13; 5, C Mottet (Fr) 0:18; 6, Rooks 0:20.
TRENTO, Italy: Tour of Trentino: Last stage: (from Tione to Trento): 1, P Bincoletto (It), 5hr 22min 05sec; 2, A Segersall (Swe), same time; 3, D Piovani (It), same time.

TENNIS

LUGANO: Women's Swiss Open: Second round: M Mesker (Neth) bt A Cecchini (It) 6-3, 7-6; M Malejeva (Bul) bt C Jolissaint (Switz) 6-0, 6-1; E Inoue (Jap) bt S Hanika (WG) 6-3, 6-3; R Reggi (It) bt M Jausovec (Yug) 3-6, 7-6, 6-3; I Budarova (Cz) bt K Rinaldi (US) 4-6, 6-0, 1-0, Rinaldi retired hurt.
TOKYO: Men: First round: S Davis (US) bt G Holmes (US) 7-6, 6-1. Women: H Mandlikova (Cz) bt A White (US) 6-2, 6-1.
FLORENCE: Second round: F Cancellotti (It) bt J Hlasek (Switz) 6-1, 6-2; D de Miguel (Sp) bt G Urpi (Sp) 0-6, 6-2, 6-3; M Dickson (US) bt H Gildemeister (Chile) 6-3, 1-6, 7-5; G Ocleppo (It) bt H Simonsson (Swe) 6-4, 6-7, 6-3; C Mezzadri (It) bt B Mitton (SA) 6-2, 3-6, 6-2; T Benhabiles (Fr) bt K Carlsson (Swe) 1-6, 6-2, 6-2; S Simonsson (Swe) bt S Colombo (It) 6-4, 7-5; J Brown (US) bt C Castellan (Arg) 6-3, 6-3.
SUTTON: Hardcourt tournament: D Moise (Rom) bt S Gomer 6-3, 0-6, 6-1; S Reeves bt I Vernhes (Fr) 7-6, 6-4; K Okamoto (Jap) bt L Corsato (Bra) 6-4, 6-3.

SUTTON: Hardcourt tournament: Men: Second round: D Moise (Rom) bt S Gomer 6-3, 0-6, 6-1; S Reeves bt I Vernhes (Fr) 7-6, 6-4; K Okamoto (Jap) bt L Corsato (Br) 6-4, 6-3. Quarter-finals: S Shaw bt J Hervet (Fr) 6-3, 6-2; D Mustard (NZ) bt O Rahnasto (Fin) 6-2, 7-5; F Rocchi (It) bt B Dadillon (Fr) 6-3, 6-2; S Birner (Cz) bt G Goven (Fr) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.
HAMBURG: West German Open championships: Second round: C Lewis (NZ) bt B Teacher (US) 4-6, 6-2, 7-5; G Vilas (Arg) bt M Edmondson (Aus) 6-3, 6-1; D Keretic (WG) bt S Sorensen (Ire) 6-2, 7-5; M Wilander (Swe) bt P McNamee (Aus) 7-5, 4-6, 6-2; T Smid (Cz) bt M Westphal (WG) 6-1, 7-6; L Pimek (Cz) bt E Teltscher (US) 4-6, 6-4, 6-3; Y Noah (Fr) bt T Tulasne (Fr) 6-4, 3-6, 7-5. G Mayer (US) bt W Masur (Aus) 6-4, 6-2.
Third round: M Wilander (Sw) bt D Keretic (WG) 3-6, 6-0, 6-2; G Mayer (US) bt J Higueras (Sp) 6-4, 6-3; J Aguilera (Sp) bt Z Kuharszky (Hun) 6-4, 6-3; Y Noah (Fr) bt C Lewis (NZ) 6-7, 6-2; L Pimek (Cz) bt W Fibak (Pol) 6-1, 4-6, 6-3; A Gomez (Ec) bt F Luna (Sp) 7-6, 7-6; H Sundstrom (Sw) bt T Smid (Cz) 6-3, 6-4; G Vilas (Arg) bt A Jarryd (Swe) 4-6, 6-1, 7-6.

HOCKEY

AMSTERDAM: Netherlands 4, Pakistan 5.

Wednesday's results

UEFA CUP FINAL:
First leg: Anderlecht 1, Tottenham Hotspur 1.
SECOND DIVISION: Derby County 2, Portsmouth 0.
THIRD DIVISION: Plymouth Argyle 3, Bradford 0.
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Aberdeen 0, Rangers 0; Heart of Midlothian 1, Dundee 1.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bolton 2, Everton 0. Second division: Rotherham 1, Wolverton 3.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Arsenal 3, Ipswich 1; Luton 1, Birmingham 0.
ESSEX SENIOR CUP FINAL: Clapton 1, Southend 0.
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES SENIOR LEAGUE, Cup final, second leg: Chelsea 1, West Ham 2 (Chelsea win 6-2 on aggregate).
YUGOSLAV CUP FINAL: First leg: Hajduk 2, Red Star 1.
SWISS LEAGUE: Cup semi-finals: Lausanne 1, St Gallen 0; Aarau 0, Servette Geneva 0.
LIBERTADORES CUP: Santos 1, Atletico Junior (Columbia) 3.
OTHER MATCHES: Bordeaux 0, Southampton 1; Udinese 4, Barcelona 1.

BADMINTON

England benefit from home upset

From Richard Eaton
Kuala Lumpur

Indonesia yesterday made certain of their place in the last four of the Thomas Cup finals, sponsored here by Marlboro, with a 5-0 win over the home team, Malaysia. One of the noisiest crowds in the world was silenced and went streaming into the emptiness of the night well before the demoralizing end.

The result will give condsiderable encouragement to England as they prepare to meet the Malaysians, who have waited two years for revenge after their last meeting.

Misbun Sidek, the millionaire of Malaysian badminton, had already had one nervously unconvincing evening against Japan, yet there were pre-match reports of the "sensation" it would beif he and Ong Beng Teong lost both the top singles. That, against the three-times All-England champion Liem Swie King and the World Cup finalist Hastomo Arbi, was always a possibility.

The pressure of expectations upon the Malaysians is now dangerously great, as The England manager, Giro Giniglio, well knows. He has fuelled it with widely reported tactical boasts about how England expect to repeat their achievement last time in reaching the last four.

EQUESTRIAN

Elite is back in place of honour

By Jenny MacArthur

After two defeats in hunter championships this season, the South Essex Insurance Brokers' outstanding middleweight hunter, Elite, ridden by Vin Toulson, resumed his customary position at the head of the hunter line up when he took the hunter championship, sponsored by Bailey's Irish Cream, at the Royal Windsor Horse Show yesterday.

The heavyweight gelding, The Senator, owned by Mrs Woods and N Trevithick and ridden by David Tatlow, stood reserve. The quality seven-year-old performed beautifully. It is his misfortune that he should appear on the scene at the same time as the incomparable Elite.

Although Elite, the hunter of the year in 1983, got off to a slow start this season – he was reserve champion at Taplow, where Toulson was reluctant to gallop him on the hard ground, and was reserve at the Newark and Notts on Wednesday – there was little doubt about the outcome when Elite came before the judges, Mr A. Steward and Mr C. R. Saunders. The grey gelding, who looks like a rocking horse with his perfect head carriage and pointed ears, gave a display of exemplary manners and a copybook ride for Toulson.

There was no surprise in the novice and lightweight classes won, respectively, by Firework Night, ridden by Toulson, and Celtic Gold, shown by Robert Oliver. The latter is only five, but fully justified Oliver's decision to put him in the lightweight class rather than the novice.

A newcomer to the heavyweight scene was the South Essex insurance brokers' Hold Fast, who stood second shown by Toulson. This was the seven-year-old gelding's first big outing, and suggests him as a future winner.

The poor attendance in yesterday's hunter classes was attributed by many of the exhibitors to the doubling of the entry fee – it is now £20 – but Mr Geoffrey Cross, the show's chairman, blamed the hard ground. Mr Cross, who has been chairman since the show started in 1943, and who is largely responsible for Windsor's status as the leading outdoor show, said yesterday that increased entry fees were necessary "to balance the books".

Last year, the show cost £219,000 to put on, and it made "a substantial loss". Mr Cross was confident that the various changes made this year, along with the sponsor's £115,000, would bring a profit.

At all costs Mr Cross is determined to keep the show's unique atmosphere. "I look upon Windsor as the Queen's show, and it is obligatory that it should be maintained in the way it always has been", he said. The Queen will visit the show on each of the remaining three days.

RESULTS: Champion: Elite (V Toulson). Reserve champion: The Senator (D Tatlow). NOVICE HUNTER: 1, Firework Night (V Toulson) 2, Royal Harvest (R Oliver) 3, Fisher Man (R Trigg). LIGHTWEIGHT HUNTER: 1, Celtic Gold (R Oliver) 2, Paddy Kelly (F Burkeman) 3, Falcon Crest (V Toulson). MIDDLEWEIGHT HUNTER: 1, Elite (V Toulson) 2, Halwell Boy (R Stack) 3, River Bells (R Lodge). HEAVYWEIGHT HUNTER: 1, The Senator (D Tatlow) 2, Hold Fast (V Toulson) 3, What a Major (H Gingell). BAILEY'S IRISH CREAM STAKES: 1, Danemere (P Crago) 0 in 44.24 2, Fingo (V Whitaker) 0 in 44.99 3, Our Gaytime (J Brown) 4 in 42.81. CLASS III INTERNATIONAL JUMPING COMPETITION: 1, Cogshall Spot On (V Whitaker) 0 in 46.48; 2, Flying Wild (M Armstrong) 4 in 43.51; 3, Kington One Off (E Macrae) 4 in 44.33.

ATHLETICS

Ikangaa is early bird for marathon

By Pat Butcher

If Juma Ikangaa keeps as far ahead of schedule as he was in his arrival in London for Sunday's marathon the Tanzanian will break the course record and any Briton staying with him to the end will be ensured a place in the Olympic marathon in Los Angeles this summer.

Two years ago Ikangaa arrived at Heathrow just as the race was getting underway in Greenwich. He took no chances this year. He arrived with three days in hand, en route for Tanzania from a 10,000 metres track race in Tokyo last weekend where he ran 28min 23.29sec.

Ikangaa, the Commonwealth silver medal winner, is in the same mould as his hero, Filbert Bayi, a 5ft 5in lightweight and a confirmed front runner. An artillery lieutenant in the Tanzanian Army, Ikangaa now trains at altitude in Arusha, Bayi's birthplace, near Kilimanjaro. In the Commonwealth Games marathon he led Robert de Castella the eventual winner, until the last two kilometres.

It was not until the last 30 metres that Ikangaa was passed by Toshihiko Seko in the Tokyo Marathon last February, but Ikangaa set his best time of 2hr 8min 55sec in finishing second to the Japanese.

Although he was loath to admit it yesterday, Ikangaa's sixth marathon on Sunday will probably follow the same pattern. He has nothing to prove to his country's selectors – he is already going to Los Angeles, with Gidemas Shahanga and Agapius Masong, making a most impressive trio for Tanzania – but he is fully capable of 2hr 10min, and that is the sort of time that the British men must do to have any chance of displacing Geoff Smith and Hugh Jones, when the three selections are made early next week.

Neither are running in London event, which sponsored by Mars, but Jones has been consistently the most highly placed Briton in international races and championships in the last three years, and Smith's runaway win in Boston, and narrow defeat in New York, in a new British best, should make him a certainty.

Chris Bunyan, like Smith a student in the United States, echoed the uncertainty of the selectors' policy statements, and thus of the contenders for what could be the last team place, when he returned home yesterday and said, "It is hard to forsee how the selectors will select." But he readily admitted that he had to think in terms of running 2hrs 10min.

RACING: CAUTHEN FREE TO RIDE CLAUDE MONET IN THE DERBY

Rowa fancied to strengthen Stoute's hand

By Mandarin

Supporters of Sandy Island, Henry Cecil's Oaks candidate, will be looking for a compliment from Rowa in this afternoon's Esal Bookmakers Oaks Trial Stakes at Lingfield Park. Sandy Island had Rowa three and a half lengths back in third place after an authoritative victory in last Friday's Pretty Polly Stakes over 10 furlongs at Newmarket.

Rowa made most of the running in that event but was quickly swallowed up by Sandy Island, once Lester Piggott set alight Lord Howard de Walden's promising filly two furlongs from home. However, Rowa stuck to her task gamely and looked certain to finish second until Dick Hern's one-eyed Cassandra made up a lot of ground in the closing stages to take the minor honours.

It is likely that Walter Swinburn will hold up Rowa for a late challenge this time, and with another of Michael Stoute's fillies, Malaak, winning Wednesday's Cheshire Oaks so impressively the Newmarket trainer could have a strong hand in the premier fillies' classic, which he won in 1978 with Fair Salinia.

Hern gave notice at Chester that his stable are finding their form after a slow start to the season and his Secret Way, who won at York on her first appearance as a two-year-old, must be respected. Guy Harwood's well-bred Spinelle will appreciate the chance to bring her stamina into play over this extended trip.

Incidentally, it was bad luck on Jim Bolger, the Irish trainer, that he was unable to run Rustic Lace in the trial after she had badly cut herself when cast in her box yesterday morning.

However Spinelle fares, Harwood should be on the mark in the opening Tender King Maiden Stakes with Overtrump, who has been pleasing on the Pulborough gallops. Harwood's only two-year-old runners so far this term, Old Baily and Solo Native, have both scored impressively.

Paul Cole's horses have been running exceptionally well recently and Miami Prince (2.45) and Serheed (3.45), both winners last time, should add to the Lambourn trainer's tally.

Miami Prince, who gamely held Saturnian's challenge in a competitive sprint handicap at Newmarket last week, is expected to defy an 8lb-penalty in the Warners Holidays Handicap despite the presence of Native Hero, who, before disappointing at Epsom, had beaten the Chester winner Clantime in a driving finish at Newbury. Serheed showed his well-being with a four-length victory at Kempton Park last Saturday. Penalized only 4lb for that success, this course and distance winner looks the best bet of the day.

Another trainer in top form is the Newmarket-based Patrick Haslam, who has high hopes of a double at Hamilton Park with Foreigner (4.0) and Wang Feihoong (5.30). Watch out, too, for another Newmarket raider, Tha, trained by Michael Jarvis and taking a drop in class to run in the Levy Board Maiden Apprentice Stakes.

Double chance: Serheed, fancied to follow up his recent Kempton victory in today's Tender Heart Stakes at Lingfield

Apprentice banned

Gary Megaskill, an apprentice jockey attached to Neville Chamberlain's stable, was banned from racing for six months by the jockey club yesterday. The disciplinary committee heard that Megaskill had been convicted of theft from the stable lad's hostel at Ayr racecourse. Any criminal offence constitutes a breach of the rules of racing. The committee tempered the sentence by allowing Megaskill to continue to work in the stable.

● Charlie Nelson, the Lambourn trainer, reports that the temperature of his beaten 1,000 Guineas favourite Mahogany has now been normal for two days. "But in condition, she looks as though she's been round Aintree," said Nelson.

Teenoso maintains family tradition

By Michael Seely

Teenoso became the first Derby winner to run at Chester after his Epsom triumph since Blakeney in 1970 when capturing the Ormonde Stakes yesterday. This was the third consecutive family triumph in this historic race, Geoffrey Wragg's father, Harry Wragg, having also won the trophy with Pelerin and Six Mile Bottom in 1981 and '82. The meeting was abandoned last year.

Recording his first victory since Epsom, Teenoso accomplished his task with a minimum of fuss. Regal Steel took over from the pacemaker, Mill Plantation, at halfway. Quickening to lead approaching the straight, Teenoso beat Khaipur by one and a half lengths. Trakady, the heavily-backed second favourite, stayed on to take third place, a further three lengths away.

Pat Eddery was full of praise for the winner. "He has got to be a good horse. He is so brave and genuine. But he wasn't doing a tap in front. He has got very lazy. I noticed it when I rode him in a gallop at Newmarket last week."

Wragg deserves every accolade for his handling of Teenoso. The colt only ran twice after his Epsom triumph, having finished third to Shareef Dancer in the Irish Sweeps Derby and having occupied the same position behind Seymour Hicks in the Great Voltigeur Stakes at York last August. "He had a problem after York and the vets never really got to it. He was just desperately sore on his off shin. He had Magneto Pulse treatment and rest and was all right after six weeks."

Teenoso is now on target for the rest of his fighting programme this season. "He will run in the Hardwicke Stakes at Royal Ascot if the ground is not too firm. After that he will go for the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud, the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes and the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe", the trainer continued.

Eric Moller, Teenoso's owner-breeder, had made a special journey from Hongkong to watch his hero's victory "You've got to come on these occasions. You can't miss them."

No further clues about this year's Derby, however, were provided by the 171st running of the Dee Stakes. After a race which was run at a crawl in the early stages, Darell McHargue drove Trial By Error past the post half a length in front of Ministerial. Seismic Wave finished third, Kalim a disappointing fifth and only about three lengths covered the first six horses home.

"If it's left to me, Trial By Error won't go to Epsom," said Luca Cumani, the winning trainer. "He could have a hard race there to finish fifth or sixth. I'd rather keep the colt for the Prince of Wales's Stakes or the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot."

Steve Cauthen is in line for the Derby ride on Henry Cecil's Claude Monet. His retaining trainer, Barry Hills said at Chester "It doesn't look as though I will have a runner in the Derby, so I've told Steve he is free to ride what he wants.

Cauthen rode Claude Monet to a narrow victory in the Heathorn Stakes at Newmarket, and will ride the colt in next Wednesday's Mecca Dante Stakes at York.

Guy Harwood said that Ministerial would next go for the Predominate Stakes and Barry Hills also announced the Goodwood race as a likely objective for Seismic Wave. "He'll have to show some spark there or he certainly won't go for the Derby," said the Lambourn trainer.

Followers of the Malton trainer Pat Rohan had their first strike of the meeting when Mark Birch rode Mavahra to a three-quarter length victory over Marching Moor in the Sceptre Fillies Stakes.

A competitive race for the Ladbroke Hotels Handicap was won by John Lowe on Electrifying, who made every yard of the running. "That's my first ever visit to Chester," said Peter Calver, the winning trainer. "Judged by the way that Electrifying handled the track, we'll certainly come back again."

After the start of the Oulton Handicap had been delayed for 10 minutes while Golden Flute, wo had been pulled up lame after the Dee Stakes, was led off the course, Philip Robinson rode All Is Forgiven for a short head win over Bernard Sunley

LINGFIELD PARK (BBC)

[Televised (BBC1) 2.15, 2.45, 3.15, 3.45]

GOING:

Draw: Up to 1m high numbers best

Tote: Double 3.15, 4.15. Treble: 2.45, 3.45, 4.45.

2.15 TENDER KING MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £2,943: 5f) (11 runners)

102 4 ANDI ALJA (Mrs R Wreford) P Mitchell 9-0 ... R McGhin 6
103 DOUBLE LIMIT (J Marshall) A Jarvis 9-0 ... T Jarvis 5 11
106 0 FULL OF ALE (L Donnelly) R Howe 9-0 ... T Quinn 3 1
109 JUST JONES (H Hardy) G Hunter 9-0 ... P Cook 9
112 0 MONTANIC (T Mountain) W Wightman 9-0 ... G Baxter 3
113 NAJI (G Coleman) P Butler 9-0 ... – 4
114 0 NO REBATE (Mrs J Fisher) M Ryan 9-0 ... P Robinson 10
115 OVERTRUMP (K Abdulla) G Harwood 9-0 ... B Rouse 7
118 SUPER REGAL (Mrs N Lewis) G Lewis 9-0 ... P Waldron 2
120 VAIGLY OH (Mary Lady Osborne) J Sutcliffe 9-0 ... Pat Eddery 5
121 LINGFIELD LADY (Sloane Bloodstock) C Brittain 8-11 ... W Carson 8
1983: Van Eyck 9-0 G Starkey (8-1) G Harwood 8 ran.

7-4 Overtrump, 4 Andi Alja, 11-2 Super Regal, 8 No Rebate, 10 Vaigly Oh, 14 Montanic, 20 others.

Lingfield selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Overtramp. 2.45 Miami Prince. 3.15. Rowa. 3.45 SERHEED (nap). 4.15 Premier Coup. 4.45 Bold Realm.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 No Rebate. 2.45 Canif. 3.15 Rowa. 3.45 True Heritage. 4.15 Nazech. 4.45 Tokaido.

By Michael Seely

2.45 Native Hero. 3.45 SERHEED (nap).

2.45 WARNERS HOLIDAYS HANDICAP (3-y-o: £5,142: 6f) (8)

201 330230- SPRING PASTURES (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) J Winter 9-7 ... A Murray 5
204 002-000 ANY BUSINESS (D) (Mrs V Lewis) G Lewis 9-0 ... P Waldron 2
205 23133-0 LALA (D) (H H Prince Saud) D Laing 8-11 ... J Reid 8
210 0110-01 MIAMI PRINCE (D) (C Wates) P Cole 8-5 (8 ex) ... T Quinn 3 4
212 033-2 CANIF (Mrs W Sole) M Ryan 8-3 ... P Robinson 7
214 31000- PICHINCHA (Mrs J Mullion) R Armstrong 7-13 ... W Carson 6
216 3400-10 NATIVE HERO (BF) (F Garvin) P Mitchell 7-11 ... A McGlone 1
218 d14300- AMIGO LOCO (B) (J Li) K Brassey 7-10 ... M Hills 3
1983: Alakh 8-7 P Eddery (evens fav) J Tree 6 ran.

2 Miami Prince, 3 Canif, 9-2 Native Hero, 11-2 Spring Pastures, 8 Amigo Loco, 14 Lala.

FORM: SPRING PASTURES (9-7) 7½l to Snow Card (8-7) (Folkestone 5f, £926, good, Oct 11). LALA (9-13) out of first 9 to Alev (9-2) (Sandown 5f, £3350, good to firm, Apr 27). MIAMI PRINCE (7-12) short head winner from Saturnian (8-11) with ANY BUSINESS (9-3) out of first 9 (Newmarket 6f, £6207, good to firm, May 4). CANIF (9-0) 3l 2nd to Don Martino (9-0) (Newmarket 6f, £2917, good to firm, Apr 17). PICHINCHA (9-7) 6th to MIAMI PRINCE (8-11) (Nottingham 6f, £2025, good to firm, Sept 27). NATIVE HERO (8-7) 7th to Bobby Dazzler (9-4) Epsom 7f, £2993, firm, Apr 25). Previously (7-13) neck winner from Clantime (9-0) with MIAMI PRINCE (8-2) a further 2l back in 5th (Newbury 5f, £3081, good, Apr 13). AMIGO LOCO (9-1) 3l 4th to Gentle Gypsy (9-7) (Wolverhampton 5f, £953, soft, Oct 19).
Selection: MIAMI PRINCE.

3.15 ESAL BOOKMAKERS OAKS TRIAL (Group III: 3-y-o fillies: £19,858: 1m 4f) (8)

301 130 MEDIA LUNA (Roldvale Ltd) P Kelleway 9-0 ... P Cook 2
302 -00110-0 MY TOOTSIE (D Fisher) M Ryan 9-0 ... P Robinson 5
303 144- OUT OF SHOT (Lady Macdonald-Buchanan) J Dunlop 9-0 ... Pat Eddery 6
304 120-24 RUSTIC LACE (D Sebire) J Bolger (Ire) 9-0 ... NON-RUNNER 3
305 10- SECRET WAY (Sir M Sobell) W Hern 9-0 ... W Carson 7
308 0 BIG NIGHT OUT (M Phillips-McDonald) G Hunter 8-9 ... P Waldron 1
309 0-23 ROWA (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 8-9 ... W R Swinburn 8
310 4-40 SPINELLE (D Harris) G Harwood 8-9 ... B Rouse 4
1983: Give Thanks 9-0 D Gillespie (9-4 fav) J Bolger (Ire) 12 ran.

11-10 Rowa, 7-2 Secret Way, 5 Media Luna, 8 Out Of Shot, 12 Spinelle, 16 others.

FORM: MEDIA LUNA 8th over 1m 2f, last time out, previously nearest finish when 5½l 3rd (8-8) to Great Western (8-12) at Epsom (1m 4f, £7817, firm, Apr 25). MY TOOTSIE 8th in handicap on reappearance, won twice in 1983, including over 9f at Wolverhampton (8-11) when beat Superbie (8-11) 7l £828, good to soft, Oct 4). OUT OF SHOT (8-6) one paced 4th to Satinette (8-6), beaten 6l, at Doncaster (8f, £16158, good to firm, Sep 8). SECRET WAY 8th final start (8-11) ran on to beat Hafaaf (9-0) 1½l on York debut (7f, £3670, good to soft, Oct 7). ROWA (8-5) 3½l third to Sandy Island (8-5) with MEDIA LUNA (8-5) back in 8th at Newmarket (1m 2f, £9928, good to firm, May 4). SPINELLE (8-11) 5½l 5th and BIG NIGHT OUT (8-7) backward and not in first nine behind Our Shirley (8-11) in Sandown maiden (1m 2f, £3187, good to firm, Apr 27).
Selection: OUT OF SHOT.

3.45 TENDER HEART HANDICAP (£3,168: 1m 4f) (10)

402 3101-03 NEORION (Capt M Lemos) C Brittain 4-9-7 ... P Robinson 3
404 023-000 JIMJAMS (B) (G Shoemark) R Hannon 4-8-9 ... P Cook 7
405 3213-00 SIKORSKY (D) (R Sangster) J Sutcliffe 4-8-8 ... Pat Eddery 5
406 d01000- YELED (D) (G Kaye) P Kelleway 6-8-8 ... Gay Kelleway 5 4
407 3410-21 SERHEED (C,D) (Faal Racing Ltd) P Cole 4-8-8 (4 ex) ... Quinn 3 8
408 01321-4 NO–U–TURN (C,D) (S Tindall) S Mellor 6-8-7 ... M Wigham 6
412 3230-44 STRATFORD PLACE (C Wright) D Laing 4-7-11 ... T Williams 5 1
413 230-000 GLENHAWK (C,D) (Express Newspapers) M Ryan 8-7-8 ... A Mackay 10
414 401310- TRUE HERITAGE (D) (D McIntyre) A Hide 5-7-7 ... S Dawson 5 9
415 4300-02 SIR HUMPHREY (Mrs S Khan) B Swift 4-7-7 ... R Fox 2
1983: North Briton 4-7-7 D McKay (6-1) C Brittain 12 ran.

9-4 Serheed, 7-2 Neorion, 4 No-U-Turn, 11-2 Stratford Place, 8 Jimjams, 10 Sir Humphrey.

FORM: NEORION (9-10) under 3l 3rd to Clanrallier (8-7) at Haydock last Saturday (1m 4f, £3,054, firm, May 5). On the same day at Kempton SERHEED (8-0) had NO–U–TURN (8-7) 9l back in 4th, JIMJAMS (8-7) further 10l adrift in 6th and SIKORSKY (8-6) 7th when comfortable h'cap winner (1m 4f, £3,947, good, May 5). In 1983 SIKORSKY (7-7) was about 1½l 3rd to Asir (8-7) at Doncaster when TRUE HERITAGE (7-7) was 11th (1m 4f, £12,652, good, Nov 5). STRATFORD PLACE (7-7) only weakened inside final furlong when about 5½l 4th to Say Primula (9-10) at Sandown (1m 6f, £4,129, good to firm, Apr 27). GLENHAWK (9-6) started slowly but kept on well to be 3½l 5th to Ardoony (8-12) at Nottingham (1m 5f, £1,705, firm, May 1).
Selection: SHERHEED.

4.15 GINEVRA STAKES (3-y-o: £2,180: 7f) (20)

501 024-1 NAZEEH (H Al-Maktoum) A Stewart 9-7 ... NON-RUNNER 11
502 01 PREMIER COUP (Esal Commodities) G Lewis 9-7 ... P Waldron 15
503 04-41 WISE CROWN (D) (Studcrown Ltd) L Cumani 9-7 ... D McHargue 10
507 200- BURGUNDY STAR (R Evans) P Kelleway 9-0 ... Gay Kelleway 7 16
508 DANCE TO THE MUSIC (R Alkhalifa) C Horgan 9-0 ... A McGlone 3
511 0-0 FLODABAY (Brig M Gordon-Watson) R Armstrong 9-0 ... P Robinson 5
512 0 GIFT OF HINDSIGHT (R Lambert) P Cundell 9-0 ... NON-RUNNER 12
513 HAJES (Yazid & Ahmed Ltd) J Dunlop 9-0 ... W Carson 13
515 00-20 MARSHALDIRECTORY (J Marshall) A Jarvis 9-0 ... Pat Eddery 6
516 2-0 MEGASTAR (B) (D Scott) G Hunter 9-0 ... P Cook 18
520 DAISY LOCH (Miss E Coller) J Holt 8-11 ... Angela Frampton 7 9
522 0-0 FAIRY BLUEBIRD (W Brahm) R Armstrong 8-11 ... P Tulk 19
523 000- FORMIDO (R Lamb) C Benstead 8-11 ... B Rouse 17
525 3420-42 GUESS AGAIN (Baroness H Thyssen) R Houghton 8-11 ... S Cauthen 2
527 00-0 JAVA JIVE (Miss J Halford) P Mitchell 8-11 ... R McGhin 1
528 000004- JUST IRENE (Mrs F Huber) M Haynes 8-11 ... G Ramshaw 8
531 0 THIRD MOVEMENT (Cheveley Park Stud) C Brittain 8-11 ... T Ives 4
532 0-0 TRY TIFFANY (Tedwood Ltd) R Baker 8-11 ... R Fox 20
533 UBIQUITOUS LADY (H Barren) R Howe 8-11 ... T Quinn 3 14
1983: (1m 4f) High Hawk 9-1 W Carson (8-11 fav) J Dunlop 11 ran.

11-8 Premier Coup, 4 Guess Again, 9-2 Wise Crown, 7 Megastar, 10 Hajes.

FORM: NAZEEH (9-0) had the backward and slow-starting PREMIER COUP (9-0) 7½l away in 4 when scoring at Brighton (6f, £1,686, good to firm, Apr 12). Next time out PREMIER COUP (9-0) was short head winner over Guess Again (8-11) at Epsom (7f, £2,345, firm, Apr 24). WISE CROWN (9-0) easy 5l winner from Rigidski (9-0) at Catterick (7f, £581, firm, May 2). MEGASTER bit backward when unplaced this season, (9-0) ran on to finish 3l 2nd to Turn The Key (8-11) at Newbury in 1983 (6f, £2,788, good, Oct 20). JAVA JIVE (8-5) about 8l 5th to Katies (8-12) over 7f at Leicester (7f, £2,030, good, Apr 16).
Selection: WISE CROWN.



4.45 SLEEPING PARTNER HANDICAP (£2,049: 6f) (25)

601 02100-0 IT'S A PLEASURE (Mrs M Hunt) W Wightman 4-10-0 ... W R Swinburn 24
603 03040-0 RUMZ (G,B) (Miss A Stephenson) P Butler 4-3-3 ... J Williams 21
604 00300-0 SPANISH POINT (D,B) (Mrs E Bays) D Sasse 5-9-1 ... D Mckay 10
605 00300-0 THE WARRIOR (G Moore) A Ingham 4-9-1 ... P Waldron 13
607 10040-0 TOKAIDO (T Corby) M Ryan 4-9-0 ... P Robinson 22
608 0031-32 HEATHER CROFT (D) (J Norman) R Hannon 4-8-13 ... A McGlone 1
609 3002-0 ORYX MINOR (R Trumper) S Mellor 4-8-13 ... M Wigham 15
610 0200-42 BOLD REALM (BF) (A Morton) A Jarvis 3-8-12 ... Pat Eddery 19
611 300100- LADY CLEMENTINE D Hunnisett) B Smith 4-8-10 ... J Reid 14
612 040010- TIN BOY (D) (T Fry) D Ringer 5-8-10 ... P D'Arcy 11
613 00000-0 ST TERRAMAR (B) (N Sarit) D Jermy 9-8-9 ... B Crossley 9
618 300030- A AMEAD (H Al-Maktoum) C Benstead 4-8-7 ... B Rouse 3
621 1400-00 LORD SCRAP (C,D) (B Swift) B Swift 8-8-5 ... P Seargent 7 20
623 00-0 DORNEY (Miss L Ennis) A Davison 4-8-2 ... N Howe 7
624 00300- PURPLE SONG (J Hurt) C Drew 3-8-1 ... A Mackay 17
627 000-02 KASSAK (C,D) (A Jones) P Ashworth 8-7-12 ... R Fox 2
628 0003-12 ELAINE ANN (D) (A Papotte) M Haynes 3-7-9 ... I Jankinson 8
629 000-04 SITEX (D) (Miss S Hayes-Sadler) M Bolton 6-7-9 ... M L Thomas 25
630 010000- KATHLEEN'S MONEY (R Jones) P Haynes 4-7-9 ... W Carson 6
631 00001-0 CLOSE TO YOU (E Etherington) Pat Mitchell 4-7-7 ... P John 7 23
632 00000-0 BOAS FESTAS (B Tang) Pat Mitchell 4-7-7 ... T Williams 5 15
634 000000- PRESS BARON (Miss E Bronson) P Ashworth 5-7-7 ... G Carter 7 4
635 0000-30 CHEUNG SING (Mrs B Mitchell) Pat Mitchell 5-7-7 ... P Bradwell 18
636 00000-0 KALLISTA ANTARTIS (B) (Miss J Apostolides) H Collingridge 4-7-7 ... – 16
637 10000-0 DEUCES WILD (P Wright) C Drew 3-7-7 ... – 12
1983: (2m seller) Getting Plenty 4-7-9 R Hills (8-1) M Pipe 20 ran.

3 Bold Realm, 7-2 Heather Croft, 5 Tokaido, 6 Elaine Ann, 8 Lady Clementine.

SPANISH POINT (7-12) and LORD SCRAP (7-13) both out of first 9 to Alev (9-2) (Sandown 5f, £3,350, good to firm, Apr 27). HEATHER CROFT (8-13) 1½l 2nd to B A Poundstretcher (8-6) with TOKAIDO (9-1) a further 2½ away in 8th (Nottingham 6f, £1,759, firm, May 1). ORYX MINOR (8-12) 12½l 8th to Ramorseless (9-2) (Chepstow 7f, £1,423, Soft, Apr 9). BOLD REALM (8-9) ¾l 2nd to Lily Bank (8-1) (Kempton 6f, £2,578, firm, Apr 21). LADY CLEMENTINE unplaced last 2 runs, previously (8-11) 1½l winner from Marial Fitzgerald (9-0) with AL AMEAD (9-0) a further 1l back in 3rd (Kempton 5f, £1,749, good to firm, Sept 2). TIN BOY out of first 9 last time, previously (9-0) 1½l winner from Tudor Bell Star (9-0) (Bath 6f, £926, hard, Aug 24). KASSAK (8-8) head 2nd to Easy Star (9-10) with SITEX (8-8) a further 2l back in 4th (Brighton 7f, £939, good to firm, Apr 12). ELAINE ANN (7-8) 6l 2nd to Daring Display (9-0) (Salisbury 5f, £2,137, good, Apr 7). Selection: TIN BOY.

HAMILTON PARK

GOING: firm

Draw: middle to high numbers best

2.30 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN APPRENTICE STAKES (3-y-o: £850: 1m 40yd) (7 runners)

1 2-0 AESCULAPIUS P Haslam 8-7 ... I Scally 2
2 02-22 BABY BOY (BF) M Prescott 8-7 ... A P O'Reilly 3
4 420-2 DOMANUS (BF) C Spares 8-7 ... S P Griffiths 1
8 0-2 KHACHATURIAN S Norton 8-7 ... A Whitehall 5 7
11 00- ROYAL CRAFTSMAN W Elsey 8-7 ... R Fahey 4
12 0330 THA (B) M Jarvis 8-7 ... V Smith 5 5
17 3 NODOUBLE'S DANCER J W Watts 8-4 ... A Gorman 5 6
1983: No corresponding meeting.

10-11 Khachaturian, 7-4 Baby Boy, 6 Nodoubles Dancer, 12 Tha, Domanus, 16 others.

Hamilton selections

By Mandarin

2.30 Tha. 3.0 Easy Star. 3.30 Your Choice. 4.0 Dubovsky. 4.30 Sandy Reef. 5.0 Herradura. 5.30 Wang Feihoong.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.30 Baby Box. 3.0 Easy Star. 3.30 Tempster. 4.0 Foreigner. 5.0 First Banquet. 5.30 Wang Feihoong.

Michael Seely's selection: 5.30 Wang Feihoong.

3.0 BLENHEIM HANDICAP (£1,379: 6f) (11)

2 310-0 KAREN'S STAR (CD) D Chapman 7-9-7 ... D Nicholls 9
4 2-010 EASY STAR (D,B) B Hanbury 4-9-3 ... A Weiss 5 7
6 3030 CENTRAL CARPETS (BF) R Stubbs 5-9-2 ... K Darley 4
8 4-000 ROMAN QUEST (C,D) P Rohan 5-8-13 ... E Hide 11
11 0400 ADJUSTED (D) R Hollinshead 5-8-10 ... S Perks 1
12 0-240 MEL MIRA T Craig 4-8-9 ... C Dwyer 1
13 00-00 ROSSETT T Craig 5-8-9 ... N Carlisle 3
15 -0210 BLACKPOOL BELLE (C,D) J Berry 3-8-5 ... – 8
19 0-00 GUITELL (D) D Plant 3-8-2 ... B Coogan 2
20 004-0 PRIONSAA W H Williams 6-8-0 ... L Charnock 6
25 0-000 LINANHOT J Parkes 4-7-7 ... S P Griffiths 7 5

9-4 Roman Quest, 5-2 Karens Star, 7-2 Central Carpets, 5 Easy Star, 8 Blackpool Belle, 12 others.

3.30 BARBICAN HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,218: 1m 40yd) (9)

2 01-00 SHARP REMARK B Hanbury 9-7 ... P Hamblett 8
3 1-000 K-BATTERY W Elsey 9-7 ... G Duffield 7
7 041 MUSIC WONDER D Plant 9-3 ... B Coogan 6
8 300-0 YOUR CHOICE (C,B) W H Williams 9-1 ... C Dwyer 1
9 00-00 INDIAN DAWN (C,B) (BF) S Norton 9-0 ... J Lowe 9
11 0-000 CAMDEN LAD R Hollinshead 8-10 ... S Perks 5
12 030-2 SEMPSTER W Holden 8-10 ... W Ryan 5 3
15 00-04 WHAT'S IN STORE C Nelson 8-5 ... R Hills 4
17 00-00 MARINERS DREAM R Morris 8-4 ... – 2

9-4 Camden Lad, 100-30 Indian Dawn, 4 What's In Store, 7 Sharp Remark, 8 Music Wonder, Sempster, 10 K-Battery, 16 others.

4.0 EARL OF ANGUS SELLING STAKES (2-y-o: £630: 5f) (8)

1 BANTEL BUCCANEER C H Bell 8-11 ... – 2
2 u DUBOVSKY R Allan 8-11 ... S Webster 8
3 FOREIGNER P Haslam 8-11 ... G Duffield 1
4 3304 IVAN-JO (B) R Stubbs 8-11 ... D Nicholls 7
6 00 MALOWSKI (B) D Plant 8-11 ... B Coogan 3
8 0 WANDERING WALTEE J Berry 8-11 ... K Darley 5
9 0 ANTHESTA J Berry 8-8 ... – 6
12 00 IMOGEN P Rohan 8-8 ... E Hide 4

9-4 Ivan-Jo, 5-2 Anthesta, 4 Bantel Buccaneer, 5 Foreigner, 7 Malowski, 10 others.

4.30 MANDORA MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £1,081: 5f) (8)

3 BANTEL BONDMAN C H Bell 9-0 ... N Carlisle 4
4 IMPECUNIOSITY J S Wilson 9-0 ... C Dwyer 5
5 KING'S BADGE T Craig 9-0 ... N Connorton 3
6 LAKE HAMILTON D Hanley 9-0 ... S Keightley 6
9 0002 PHILIP (B) N Tinkler 9-0 ... E Hide 7
11 22 SANDY REEF (BF) J Berry 9-0 ... K Darley 2
12 4 BEG-TO-DIFFER W H Williams 8-11 ... O Gray 8
13 00 CAROUSEL NOUGAT J S Wilson 8-11 ... – 1

8-11 Sandy Reef, 3 Philip, 6 Beg-To-Differ, 10 Bantel Bondman, Lake Hamilton, 14 others.

5.0 SCOTTISH RIFLES MAIDEN STAKES (£1,099: 1m 3f) (10)

2 400-0 CORSTON LAD J Winter 4-9-7 ... E Hide 5
3 0 PONDERONIT D Chapman 4-8-7 ... D Nicholls 6
4 320- RULER ON A LARK J Edwards 4-9-7 ... W Ryan 5 8
8 0-4 ASH FAIR A Bailey 3-8-8 ... P Bloomfield 5 9
10 00-44 FIRST BANQUET M Jarvis 3-8-8 ... B Raymond 2
13 003-0 HERRADURA M Prescott 3-8-8 ... G Duffield 4
15 00-00 LOTTESVILLE C Austin 3-8-8 ... M Birch 3
17 000- NORTHGATE VENTURE D Plant 3-8-8 ... B Coogan 7
19 02-00 SERGIADES V Thompson 3-8-8 ... M Fry 1
23 0-00 ELECTRIFIED W Elsey 3-8-5 ... C Dwyer 10

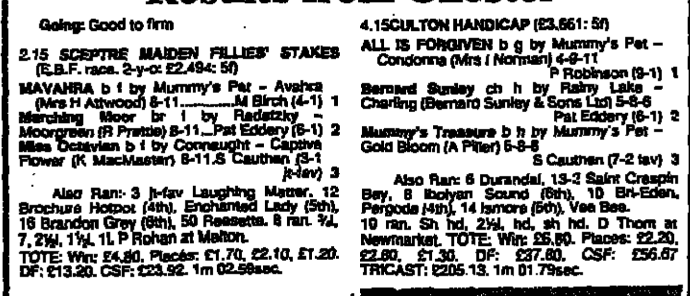
6-4 First Banquet, 3 Herradura, 5 Ash Fair, 8 Ruler On A Lark, 10 Corston Lad, Lottesville, 16 others.

5.30 CAMERONIANS HANDICAP (£2,197: 1m 4f) (8)

3 40-02 WANG FEIHOONG (D) (BF) P Haslam 4-9-8 ... G Duffield 2
4 0320 CARTER'S WAY (C,D) T Craig 4-9-8 ... C Dwyer 6
7 1103- JENDOR V Thompson 4-9-1 ... M Fry 1
9 2120- PURNS MILL A Stewart 4-8-13 ... W Ryan 5 4
12 000-0 HIGHAM GREY (D) D Chapman 8-8-5 ... D Nicholls 8
13 00-02 PORTER (C,B) E Carter 5-8-5 ... J Carr 7 3
14 00-00 BRIGADIER HAWK (D) C Austin 6-8-4 ... M Birch 5
15 104-0 HAZEL BANK R Allan 5-8-3 ... S Webster 7

2 Wang Feihoong, 7-2 Hazel Bank, 9-2 Higham Grey, 6 Jendor Purns Mill, 8 Carters Way, 12 others.

Results from Chester



Going: Good to firm

2.15 SCEPTRE MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES (E.B.F. race. 2-y-o: £2,494: 5f)

MAVAHRA b f by Mummy's Pet – Avahra (Mrs H Attwood) 8-11 ... M Birch (4-1) 1
Marching Moor br f by Radetzky – Moorgreen (R Pratzie) 8-11 ... Pat Eddery (6-1) 2
Miss Octavian b f by Connaught – Captive Flower (K MacMaster) 8-11 ... S Cauthen (3-1 jt-fav) 3

Also Ran: 3 jt-fav Laughing Matter, 12 Brochure Hotpot (4th), Enchanted Lady (5th), 16 Brandon Grey (6th), 50 Reesetta. 8 ran. ¾l, 7, 2½l, 1½l, 1l. P Rohan at Malton. TOTE: Win: £4.80. Places: £1.70, £2.10, £1.20. DF: £13.20. CSF: £23.92. 1m 02.58sec.

2.45 ORMONDE STAKES (Group III: £15,848: 1m 5f 89yd)

TEENOSO b c by Youth – Furioso (E Moller) 4-9-4 ... Pat Eddery (11-8 fav) 1
Khaipour gr h by Arctic Tern – Khayra (H H Aga Khan) 5-9-4 ... S Cauthen (100-30) 2
Trakady b c by Relkino – Much Pleasure (Lady Beaverbrook) 4-8-10 ... W Carson (7-4) 3

Also Ran: 33 Regal Steel (4th), 100 Mill Plantation (5th). 5 ran. 1½l, 3l, 3l, 8l. G Wragg at Newmarket. TOTE: Win: £2.00. Places: £1.50, £1.00. DF: £3.50. CSF: £3.58. 2m 51.92sec.

3.15 LADBROKE HOTELS HANDICAP STAKES (3-y-o: £4,064: 7f)

ELECTRIFYING br c by Formidable – Edellette (P Goulandris) 7-8 ... J Lowe (5-1) 1
Young Knight b g by Immortal Knight – Young Romance (N Westbrook) 7-8 ... L Charnock (9-2) 2
Master Driver gr or ro c by Absalom – Shelton Song (A Crawford) 7-7 ... M Fry (12-1) 3

Also Ran: 4 fav Seigneur, 15-2 Alghuzaylah, 8 Welsh Wille, 10 Emergency Plumber (5th), Taygetus (4th), 12 Sailing High, 14 Himself, Maloo's Image (6th), 20 Marzia's Hollow. 12 ran. ¾l, 3l, nk, 2l, 4l. P Calver at Ripon. TOTE: Win: £5.40. Places: £2.10, £2.00, £2.80. DF: £9.10. CSF: £28.38. Tricast: £245.46. 1m 27.02sec.

3.45 DEE STAKES (Group III: 3-y-o: £13,784: 1m 2f 85yd)

TRIAL BY ERROR b c by Caro – Perfect Pigeon (S Fradkoff) 8-12 ... D McHargue (9-2) 1
Ministerial b c by The Minstrel – River Rose (S Niarchos) 8-12 ... A Clark (8-1) 2
Seismic Wave b c by Youth – Shellshock (R Sangster) 8-12 ... S Cauthen (9-1) 3

Also Ran: 2 fav Kalim (5th), 15-2 Donzel (6th), 14 Knoxville (4th), 16 Golden Flute, 50 Jamals Derierre. 8 ran. ½l, nk, 2l, sh hd, hd. L Cumani at Newmarket. TOTE: Win: £5.90. Places: £1.80, £2.20, £1.60. DF: £18.40. CSF: £26.08. 2m 16.20 sec.

4.15 OULTON HANDICAP (£3,661: 5f)

ALL IS FORGIVEN b g by Mummy's Pet – Condonna (Mrs I Norman) 4-8-11 ... P Robinson (9-1) 1
Bernard Sunley ch h by Rainy Lake – Charling (Bernard Sunley & Sons Ltd) 5-8-6 ... Pat Eddery (6-1) 2
Mummy's Treasure b h by Mummy's Pet – Gold Bloom (A Pitter) 5-8-6 ... S Cauthen (7-2 fav) 3

Also Ran: 6 Durandal, 13-2 Saint Crespin Bay, 8 Ibolyan Sound (6th), 10 Bri-Eden, Pergoda (4th), 14 Ismore (5th), Vee Bee. 10 ran. Sh hd, 2½l, hd, sh hd. D Thom at Newmarket. TOTE: Win: £5.80. Places: £2.20, £2.80, £1.30. DF: £37.80. CSF: £56.67. TRICAST: £205.13. 1m 01.79sec.



Geoffrey Wragg: fluent victory with Teenoso

4.45 EATON HANDICAP £3,707: 1m 4f 65yd)

WAGONER b c by Rheingold – Tranquility (A Oldrey) 4-9-10 ... Pat Eddery (7-4 fav) 1
Dodgy Future b c by Nebbiolo – Taking Silk (D Lowe) 4-8-12 ... M Wigham (8-1) 2
Rivers Edge b g by Sharpen Up – Ebb And Flo (J Fry) 6-7-13 ... M Fry (4-1) 3

Also Ran: 4 Ardoony (6th), 8 Masked Ball (4th), North Briton (5th), 33 Somers Heir. 7 ran. 1½l, 4l, Sh hd, 1½l, 3l. P Walwyn at Lambourn. TOTE: Win: £2.60. Places: £1.90, £2.00. DF: £14.00. CSF: £14.41. 2m 44.84sec. TOTE DOUBLE: £78.40. TREBLE: £12.15. JACKPOT: £7,238.70. Single Winner Bonus not won. PLACEPOT: £18.65.

Ciechanowski collects again

Little went right for John Ciechanowski last season, but remorseless is keeping the flag flying for the Lambourn trainer this year, and landed his third victory from four outings when carrying top weight to success in the Faust Lager handicap at Salisbury yesterday.

Ciechanowski, a former cavalry officer in his native Poland, is now private trainer to Shaikh Mohammed. Like many of his stable companions remorseless was not right last season, and only made one appearance, but he is now starting to pay dividends on the $140,000 he cost the Shaikh as a yearling. The colt took command inside the final furlong and won far more easily than the official length verdict suggested.

Promised Isle maintained the favourite's hold on the Dorset Handicap. The market leader has won this mile race for the past four years, and Promised Isle, the 11-8 on favourite, always looked likely to extend the sequence.

Striking the front inside the final furlong, the son of Mill Reef was never asked a serious question by Brian Rouse, and easily came clear of Imperial Salute

Salisbury results

Going: Firm

2.0 (1m) 1, PROMISED ISLE (B Rouse, 8-11 fav); 2 Imperial Salute (R Hills, 16-1); 3, Top of the Stretch (A McGlone, 4-1). Also Ran: 7 Belvoir Patrol (6th), 9 Native Spell (5th), 33 Nashwah (4th), Jimmy Edwards, Yaz Salaam, Spring Rose, Northern Halo, Rufcha. 11 Ran. 2l, 10l, 4l, 1l. J Dunlop at Arundel. Tote: £1.60, £1.20, £2.70, £1.40. DF: £8.20. CSF: £12.41. TRICAST: £27.48.

2.30 (7f) 1, REMORSELESS (G Baxter, 4-1 fav); 2, Grand Harbour (R Hills, 16-1); 3, Portogon (D McKay, 8-1). Also Ran: 9-2 Swinging Rebel (5th), 5 Balinacarn (4th), 8 Biddable, 10 Trumps, 14 Tapeland, 16 Yangtse-Kiang, 20 Telephone Numbers, Manchesterskytrain (6th). 11 Ran. 1l, 1½l, 2l, nk, 1l. J Ciechanowski at Lambourn. Tote: £4.00; £1.40, £3.80, £2.30. DF: £120.10. CSF: £55.66. TRICAST: £434.07.

3.0 (5f) 1, TANA MIST (Paul Eddery, 9-2); 2, Tyrollie (P Cook, 11-2); 3, Fleur Rouge (P Waldron, 4-1 fav). Also Ran: 9-2 Ghizlan (4th), 11-2 Milva, 8 Fun Lady, 12 Xanch (5th), 14 Fortune's Ring (6th). NR: Tavisgrove. ¾l, ¾l, hd, 3l, 1½l. R Voorspuy at Polegate. Tote: £4.40; £1.20, £1.70, £2.00. DF: £15.80. CSF: £26.33.

3.30 (5f) 1, JACKIE BLAIR (T Williams, 9-4 fav); 2, Freemont Boy (R Fox, 16-1); 3, Mango May Sing (A Mackay, 6-1). Also ran: 9-2 Manor Farm Trio, 6 Hopi (4th), 8 Idle Times, Disting, 12 Racina City (6th), Taylors Renovation, 20 Kalagu, Single (5th), 25 Navana, 33 Freeracer. 13 ran. ¾l, 2½l, ½l, head. P Haynes at Chichester. Tote: £3.40; £1.50, £9.60, £4.70. DF: £38.90. CSF: £40.75. 62.01sec.

4.0 (1m 2f) 1, SERGEANT DRUMMER (B Rouse, 7-4 jt-fav); 2, Elisse (P Waldron, 14-1); 3, Nearly A Nose (J Mercer, 7-4 jt-fav). Also ran: 12 Therapeutic, Linga Longa, 16 Akoo King, 20 Bachagha, Non Nobis (6th), Park Parade (4th), 33 Ancient Mariner, Invincible Pink, Just Blake, Linda's Native, Man O'Magic, The Mooche, Theodas, Steal The Show, Thereon. 18 ran. 5l, 3l, 2l, ¾, 2l. G Harwood at Pulborough. Tote: £3.00; £2.20, £3.10, £1.50. DF: £51.70. CSF £26.40. 2m 07.99sec.

4.30 (1m 2f) 1, TROPICAL WAY (J Mercer, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, High Morale (G Duffield, 4-1); 3, Geovale (R Guest, 12-1). Also ran: 7-2 (jt-fav) August (4th), 4 Defloreur (6th), 12 Typo, 14 Charlie's Angel, 16 Hive Off, 20 Stockaign, Dallas Smith, Ghanayem (5th) 33 Guruvayoor, Liner, B J Moon, Lady Capilano. NR: Cambridge Circus, Shihab. 15 ran. 1½l, 4l, ½l, 2½l, 1l. P Walwyn at Lambourn. Tote: £3.10, £1.30, £2.00, £3.80. DF: £7.10. CSF: £19.20. 2m 07.72sec.

5.0 (1m 6f) 1, Fitzpatrick (J Mercer, 9-2 jt-fav); 2, Macmillion (J Williams, 13-2); 3, Minshaanshu Amad (N Adams, 8-1). Also ran: 9-2 (jt-fav) Harbour Bridge, 11-2 Crimson Knight, 8 Camacho (6th), Solar Light (5th), 10 Al Nasr (4th), Somersday, 16 John Feather, 50 Goblin. 11 ran. Nk, 4l, 1½l, ½l, 5l. P Walwyn at Lambourn. Tote: £5.20; £2.10, £2.70, £2.40. DF: £12.00. CSF: £33.96. Tricast: £187.69. 3m 00.01sec. PLACEPOT £30.50.

Course specialists

LINGFIELD

JOCKEYS P Eddery 28 winners from 147 rides 19.0%; W Carson 27 from 151, 17.9%; P Cook 18, 110, 16.4%.

TRAINERS G Harwood 34 from 128, 26.6%; J Sutcliffe 13 from 61, 21.3%; P Cole 22 from 107, 20.6%.

HAMILTON

JOCKEYS B Raymond 11 from 43, 25.6%; G Duffield 43 from 233, 20.6%; E Hide 19 from 101, 18.8%.

TRAINERS P Rohan 16 from 49, 32.7%; M Prescott 28 from 94, 29.8%; J Watts 18 from 79, 22.8%.

Three National Hunt meetings

Stratford

GOING: good to firm

6.0 RADWAY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£636. 2m) (8 runners)

1 000 Red Nick 6-12-7 ... M Hill 7
2 140 Abalight 6-11-13 ... R Chapman
4 p/09 Karyobinga (B) 6-11-3 ... D Chinn 7
5 00p- Street Crier 6-11-2 ... N Fearn 7
9 f12 Botisham 6-10-12 ... R Arnott 7
11 00f Ze Avatar 4-10-7 ... K Burke 7
12 60/p Rocha Girl 6-10-7 ... –
13 p02 Miss Date 5-10-7 ... G Charles Jones

6-4 Botisham 2 Miss Date, 4 Karyobinga, 8 Red Nick.

6.30 BRAILES NOVICE CHASE £1,160: 2m) (8)

1 112 Young Lover 6-12-0 ... J Francome
4 012 Lulav 6-11-8 ... P Scudamore
5 888 Aldington Bay 6-11-2 ... S Morshead
6 003 Fortstar 6-11-2 ... K Mooney
10 000 Reddown 6-11-2 ... C Mann
13 p-0 Cindy's Rival 6-10-11 ... Mr L Lay 7
14 330 Flying Mistress 6-10-11 ... G McCourt
15 382 Sutton Court 6-10-11 ... P Warner

15-8 Young Lover, 5-2 Lulav, 9-2 Fortstar, 6 Flying Mistress

7.0 RODDY BAKER GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£2,754: 2m 6f) (11)

2 131 Half Free 8-11-12 ... R Linley
3 142 Ma'gnourry 12-11-11 ... –
5 812 Gambling Prince 11-11-1 ... J Burke
8 42/0- Glen Berg (B) 9-10-10 ... K Mooney
9 2b1 Lodge's Fortune 9-10-9 ... Mr H Sharpe
13 2ff Upham Pleasure 9-10-7 ... P Barton
14 fp3 Broadheath 7-10-7 ... P Scudamore
15 311 Crosa 9-10-6 ... S Moore 4
17 30u Greenways 9-10-0 ... G Newman
18 133 The Go-Boy 10-10-0 ... S Morshead
21 4p1 Bayham Sir Vardon 10-10-0 (9 ex) ... R Goldstein

4 Half Free, 5 Gambling Prince, 11-2 Crosa, 7 Broadheath

7.30 SHELDON NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (£1,740: 3m 2f) (14)

1 421 Planetman 7-12-5 ... –
3 132 Viewed Away 9-11-8 ... Mr T Clay
4 uf2 Vendever 9-11-3 ... J Francome
5 312 Prosett 6-11-2 ... S Moore 4
9 311 Takeasience (B) 6-10-8 (7 ex) ... J Suthern
10 ef8 North Lane 7-10-6 ... –
11 203 Bromyys 7-10-5 ... P Scudamore
12 103 Sweet Mandy (B) 8-10-0 ... –
13 484 Athens Star 9-10-0 ... G Davies
15 40p Arcticlac (B) 11-10-0 ... G Jones
18 0f Lucky Vinlaga 7-10-0 ... A Webber
20 000 Tudor Bab 6-10-0 ... A Webb
21 401 Bosky Bay 10-10-0 ... K Burke 7
22 43p Cold View 8-10-0 ... M Hammond 4

100-30 Planetman, 4 Viewed Away, 5 Takeasience, 8 Prosett.

8.0 TYSOE MAIDEN HURDLE (4-y-o: £548: 2m) (11)

1 14 Barron Julius 10-12 ... Mr L Lay 7
2 0pp Celtic March 10-12 ... A Webber
4 430 Conor's Rock (B) 10-12 ... S McNeill
7 0 Jack Billmeir 10-12 ... G McCourt
8 6 John Doyle 10-12 ... P Leach
10 033 Pip 10-12 ... K Mooney
11 800 Queensbury Joe (B) 10-12 ... A Carroll
14 0 Thistle Stikk 10-12 ... –
17 380 High State 10-7 ... P Scudamore
19 6 Lucky Lena 10-7 ... –
22 0p2 Shellbeack Darter 10-7 ... A Lovell

Evens Pip, 4 Jack Billmeir, 6 Conor's Rock, 8 High State.

8.30 OXHILL HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,340: 2m) (16)

2 80-1 Minibank 6-11-10 ... G Davies
4 034 Silent Echo 9-11-5 ... Mr R Dunwoody 4
5 040 Grey Gate 7-11-2 ... N Madden
9 011 Tenered Walk 5-11-0 ... J Bryan
10 001 Ballyseedy Hero 6-10-13 ... C Warren 7
11 400 Fit For A King 5-10-11 ... G McCourt
14 800 Funky Angel 6-10-9 ... P Scudamore
15 080 Handy Ranch 5-10-9 ... M Brennan
20 212 Picotee 6-10-6 ... Mr M Bosley 7
22 802 Match Maker 5-10-4 ... M Hammond
24 184 Sunshine Bay 5-10-3 ... R Hyett
26 p4 Blue Petrel (B) 6-10-1 ... A Webb
27 63a Snowy Bondlair 5-10-0 ... –
29 p03 Grafty Green (B) 9-10-0 ... I Williams 7
30 040 Bikes Bounty (B) 8-10-0 ... J Cox
31 800 General Pattaras 10-10-0 ... Mrs P Nicholls 4

5-2 Tenered Walk, 7-2 Minibank, 5 Picotee, 13-2 Silent Echo.

STRATFORD SELECTIONS (By Mandarin): 6.0 Botisham. 6.30 Young Lover. 7.0 Crosa. 7.30 Planetman. 8.0 Jack Billmeir. 8.30 Fit For A King.

Newton Abbot

GOING: good to firm

2.30 M & W TORBAY NOVICE HURDLE (4-y-o: £633: 2m 5f 110yd) (7 runners)

1 801 Proudest Diana (B) 10-12 ... S McNeill
2 332 Whenever 10-12 ... J Frost
3 002 Celtic Story 10-10 ... –
5 03 Little Ben 10-10 ... M Yeoman 7
6 080 Sparky 10-10 ... P Carvill
8 80 Birds Of A Feather 10-5 ... J Suthern
9 48 Celtic Harmony 10-5 ... P Murphy

7-4 Whenever, 5-2 Celtic Story, 7-2 Proudest Diana, 6 Little Ben.

3.0 MISSELBROOK & WESTON NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,469: 2m 150yd) (14)

2 113 Wise Velvet 6-12-3 ... K Mooney
3 081 Kynda 6-11-10 (5 ex) ... –
7 201 Prescoena Wood 10-11-0 ... P Warner
8 0f1 Spanish Streak 7-10-11 ... S Moore 4
10 b13 Sir Lester 8-10-10 ... A Griffiths 4
11 311 Gragara Lad 9-10-5 ... R Linley
12 u01 Captain Pat 8-10-4 ... G Rapps 7
13 08/1 Limpar North 9-10-0 ... –
14 033 Owen Glendower 7-10-0 ... P Richards
15 341 Waltzer 13-10-0 ... Michelle Sherron 4
17 842 Tinker's Trip 9-10-0 ... P Stone 7
19 p8t Gollyon 7-10-0 ... R Hoare
21 0p8 Brisaka 7-10-0 ... C Gray
22 p84 Sheet Flier (B) 10-10-0 ... C Brown

2 Prescoena Wood, 4 Gragara Lad, 9-2 Kynda, 11-2 Limpar North.

3.30 M & W CASH & CARRY HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,867: 2m 150yd) (12)

2 391 Crown Land 9-12-0 (7 ex) ... –
5 834 Mendus Marauder 8-10-12 ... N Hunter 7
6 141 Rhythmic Pastimes 4-10-12 ... –
8 80-8 Black Earl 7-10-5 ... K Mooney
9 301 Fer-Kit 8-10-5 ... M Richards 4
12 304 Miss Saddler 8-10-2 ... Christina Young 7
13 141 Violino Fandango 6-10-1 ... P Stone 7
14 238- Golden Rat 11-10-0 ... –
17 189- Toatley Able 7-10-0 ... L Bloomfield 4
19 883 Tidy Work 9-10-0 ... George Knight
21 8-p8 Firm Conviction 7-10-0 ... Miss T Turner 7
23 p/pp- Mister Oats 11-10-0 ... NON-RUNNER

9-4 Rhythmic Pastimes, 3 Violino Fandango, 9-2 Fer-Kit, 6 Crown Land.

4.30 M & W 'OUR' BRAND NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (£702: 2m 150yd) (16)

2 31 Lord Chanticleer 4-11-2 ... –
3 382 Chocolate Imp 11-11-0 ... –
5 000 March Spark 8-11-0 ... C Brown
7 p08 Midnight Rocket 6-11-0 ... C Jones
8 8-28 Park Jet 8-11-0 ... Miss L Wallace 7
9 Pappa Fashion 11-11-0 ... –
12 888 Tarnam Buck 7-11-0 ... –
13 p80 Tiptoe Lover 8-11-0 ... M Caswell 7
14 100 Uncle Owl 5-11-0 ... W O'Callaghan 7
15 008 Fleri Wonder 4-10-11 ... R Atkins
18 00 Go Persian 7-10-9 ... M Richards 4
19 08-p Hana Bako 9-10-9 ... –
21 844 Maggie Dee 7-10-9 ... J Frost
23 0/00 Mossista 10-10-9 ... Miss S Waterman
25 148 Tia Girl 6-10-9 ... P Richards
26 8r Wayward College (B) 8-10-9 ... M Nuttall 4

15-8 Lord Chanticleer, 7-2 Chocolate Imp, 9-2 Fleri Wonder, 6 Maggie Dee.

4.0 M & W CATERING CASH & CARRY HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £971: 3m 2f 100yd) (13)

1 831 Leonstar 9-13-0 ... Miss A Dare 7
2 4rp- Piping Reed (B) 12-13-0 ... M Williams 7
3 113 Dicky Blob 9-12-10 ... W Nicholls 7
6 003/ Charlies Greeting 8-12-0 ... –
7 p8u Crezpinian 10-12-0 ... M Bell 7
8 u Flicsord 8-12-0 ... W Turner 7
10 1 Jonks Babble (B) 10-12-0 ... G Edwards 7
11 p0-2 Richard G 11-12-0 ... P Hosegood 7
12 8-08 Robbers Bridge 10-12-0 ... J Cann
13 p80/ The Escaper 8-12-0 ... –
14 Forgotten 12-11-9 ... NON-RUNNER
15 2 Rose d'Amour 9-11-9 ... A Tizzard 7
16 6p Sted Money 9-11-3 ... J Wyatt 7

4-6 Dicky Blob, 4 Leonstar, 7 Richard G, 9 Rose d'Amour.

5.0 M & W CONSORT BRAND NOVICE HURDLE (£1,099: 2m 5f 110yd) (16)

4 s01 Beni 8-11-3 ... P Nicholls
5 30p Bolt The Gate 5-11-3 ... Mr P Schofield 4
7 313 Deadly Going 6-11-3 ... –
9 002 Major Gamble 10-11-3 ... Lorna Vincent
10 888 Norfolk Storm (B) 8-11-3 ... C Brown
11 132 The Totm 7-11-3 ... –
12 p30 Wild Corn 5-10-12 ... E Waite
13 842 African Star 6-10-10 ... R Hoare
14 004 Alasgrove Sound 6-10-10 ... Mr N Brookes
16 ppf Hulda (B) 9-10-10 ... –
18 003 King Burg 5-10-10 ... S Earle 7
19 Laughter Lines 5-10-10 ... P Richards
21 Mummys Swift 5-10-10 ... R Muggeridge 7
30 Bridle Lane 11-10-5 ... B Wright
38 p-80 My Flyaway 6-10-5 ... M Yeoman 7
40 Randam Jest 5-10-5 ... –

9-4 Deadly Going, 11-4 Beni, 100-30 The Totm, 5 African Star

NEWTON ABBOT SELECTIONS (By Mandarin): 2.30 Celtic Story. 3.0 Gragara Lad. 3.30 Rhythmic Pastimes. 4.0 Dicky Blob. 4.30 Maggie Dee. 5.0 Deadly Going.

Sedgefield

GOING: hard

5.45 FISHBURN CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE £431: 2m 4f) (7 runners)

2 00-8 Wimsey 7-11-9 ... K Jones
3 r08 No Match 8-11-2 ... M Bowlby
4 6b0 Lex Kelly 8-10-12 ... D Thompson
5 381 Sunspeed 6-10-11 ... K Teelan
6 204 Chaperon 6-10-7 ... Vicki Harris
7 000 Roebuck Runner 6-10-4 ... –
9 00p Dipatitos 8-10-0 ... T Donnelly

11-8 Chaperon, 5-2 Sunspeed, 9-2 Wimsey, 8 Lex Kelly.

6.15 FERGUSON FOSTER NOVICE CHASE £914: 2m) (4)

1 000 Another Wager 7-11-4 ... J J O'Neill
6 00p- Kay Harker 7-11-4 ... R H Bissill 7
8 p23 Trafalgar Bill 7-11-4 ... C Pimlott
10 0pp Wilton Beacon 8-11-4 ... J A Harris

4-5 Another Wager, 6-5 Trafalgar Bill, 14 Wilton Beacon, 25 Kay Harker.

6.45 E A CLAYTON LTD HANDICAP CHASE (£1,407: 2m 4f) (5)

1 p30 Good Crack 7-11-10 ... C Pimlott
3 p00 Kumon Sunshine 7-10-9 ... N doughty
4 201 Vale Challenge 10-10-6 ... NON-RUNNER
6 12-4 San Malo 10-10-0 ... Mr N Babbage 4
7 223 Jimmy Chips 7-10-0 ... –

6-4 Good Crack, 5-2 Vale Challenge, 4 Jimmy Chips, 11-2 San Malo.

7.15 SOLMERE HANDICAP CHASE (£1,255: 3m 600yd) (4)

3 111 Powder Horn 7-11-7 ... Mr N Tutty 7
5 fpp Corby Wood 10-11-4 ... Mr N Babbage 4
7 441 La Bouef 8-11-2 ... R Lamb
8 809 Who's Free (B) 9-10-6 ... B Storey

8-11 Powder Horn, 15-8 La Boeuf, 10 Who's Free, 12 Corby Wood.

7.45 STANLEY THOMPSON MEMORIAL HANDICAP HURDLE (£879: 3m 600yd) (6)

1 311 Rodney Parade 9-12-1 (8 ex) ... –
3 0p0 First April 8-11-7 ... J L Goulding
6 083 Glen Willy 6-11-2 ... Mr J Wade
9 019 Optimum (B) 8-10-12 ... J J O'Neill
13 800 Ingham 12-10-8 ... –
17 f30 Air Space 5-10-1 ... C Grant

Evens Rodney Parade, 11-4 Glen Willy, 6 Optimum, 8 Ingham

8.15 SEEDLING NOVICE HURDLE £818: 2m 4f) (4)

1 021 Belle Isle Walk 7-11-5 ... C Grant
5 800 Beau Lyon 6-11-0 ... R Lamb
12 808- Kingfisher Wonder 5-11-0 ... Mr R J Beggan 4
13 Mentionable 9-11-0 ... A Dickman

4-9 Belle Isle Walk, 5-2 Beau Lyon, 12 Kingfisher Wonder, 14 Mentionable.

SEDGEFIELD SELECTIONS (By Mandarin): 5.45 Lex Kelly. 6.15 Trafalgar Bill. 6.45 Good Crack. 7.15 La Boeuf. 7.45 Rodney Parade. 8.15 Belle Isle Walk.

Law Report May 11 1984

Taking specimens of breath for analysis

Howard v Hallett

Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Mann

[Judgment delivered May 4]

A person suspected of driving with excess alcohol who had provided a positive roadside breath test could be required to provide no more than two specimens of breath for analysis by an approved device (here a Lion Intoximeter 3000) at a police station under section 8(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, as amended by Schedule 8 to the Transport Act 1981.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court allowed the appeal of David Charles Howard on a case stated by Wadebridge Justices who, on August 9, 1983, on a charge preferred by the prosecutor, Edmund Robert Hallett, convicted the defendant of driving with excess alcohol, contrary to section 6(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, as mended.

Mr W. P. L. Sellick for the defendent: Mr John Lofthouse for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the justices found that the defendant was seen driving a motor vehicle in a suspicious manner in the early hours of the morning of June 21, 1983. After being stopped by the police and providing a breath specimen which proved positive, he was arrested and taken to Newquay police station where he was required to supply two breath specimens for analysis.

The defendant duly provided the first specimen, but the constable forgot to ask the defendant for a second specimen in accordance with the operating procedures of the device and it accordingly produced an analysis of only one specimen.

Having discovered the operating error, it was decided that the entire procedure for the requiring and taking of breath specimens should be recommenced and the defendant, having been given the requisite statutory warning, was required to provide a further two specimens.

Only the second and third specimens were adduced in evidence before the justices. Both showed a proportion of alcohol above the prescribed limit and the third showed a higher proportion than the second. No evidence was given of the proportion of alcohol in the first specimen but cross-examination of the constable revealed that the first specimen had contained a lower alcohol content than the second specimen.

The justices found the case proved and convicted the defendant.

Two of the questions posed by the justices were (a) whether a police officer who had arrested a person who had provided a positive roadside breath test was empowered by section 8(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, as amended, to require that person to provide a third specimen of breath for analysis by an approved device, having previously provided two proper such specimens for analysis; and (b) whether the justices were entitled to convict the defendant when the first proper specimen contained a lower proportion of alcohol than the second, albeit that there was no evidence before the justices as to what that proportion was.

Section 8(1)(a) of the 1972 Act, as amended, provided that in the course of investigating whether a person had been driving with excess alcohol, a constable could require the person to provide two specimens of breath for analysis by an approved device.

Section 8(6) provided: "Of any two specimens of breath provided ... in pursuance of this section that with the lower proportion of alcohol ... shall be used and the other shall be disregarded: ..."

Section 10(2) provided: "Evidence of the proportion of alcohol ... in a specimen of breath ... shall, in all cases, be taken into account, and it shall be assumed that the proportion of alcohol in the accused's breath ... at the time of the alleged offence was not less than in the specimen; ..."

Mr Sellick submitted that section 8(1) (a) empowered a constable to require a person to provide no more than two specimens of breath for analysis; that of the two specimens provided pursuant to a request under section 8(1) (a) the specimen showing the higher proportion of alcohol had to be disregarded pursuant to section 8(6) and, by section 10(2), that only the remaining specimen was to be taken into account in evidence.

It was further submitted that, on the facts of the present case, the first specimen having been properly provided and analysed, only one other specimen could be required of the defendant; and that only the first specimen should have been taken into account by the justices since it showed a lower reading than the second specimen which should have been disregarded.

Mr Lofthouse submitted that in respect of an offence under section 6(1) of the 1972 Act, as amended, the prosecutor had only to prove that the driver of a vehicle had consumed excess alcohol and could do so by any evidence available for that purpose, including specimens provide outside the provisions of section 8; and that the evidence to be taken into account under section 10(2) of the 1972 Act meant any evidence without qualification.

The startling consequence of that submission was that it was possible entirely to disregard the strict procedures laid down by Parliament for the taking of specimens and the manner in which analyses of specimens were to be presented to a court. Such a consequence could not have been intended.

In his Lordship's opinion, the evidence to be taken into account under section 10(2) was the specimens taken in accordance with the statutory procedure laid down by section 8.

Counsel for the defendant was right in his analysis of the sections. The proper course in the present case would have been to disregard the second breath specimen. Instead, the justices had relied on it to support the conviction.

The appeal would be allowed. The justices' questions would be answered "No".

Mr Justice Mann agreed.

Solicitors: Robbins Olivey & Blake Lapthorn for MacMillans, Bodmin: Edwin Coe & Calder Woods for Harvey & Sproull, Bodmin.

Correction

In *Cotter v Kamil* (*The Times* May 7) the last phrase in the fourth paragraph of Lord Justice Robert Goff's judgment should have read " ... full and proper analysis of breath samples".

Detention of Irish citizen not against EEC law

Regina v Governor of Pentonville Prison, Ex parte Healy

Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Mann

[Judgment delivered May 4]

Detention of a citizen of the Republic of Ireland for the purpose of returning him to that country under the Backing of Warrants (Republic of Ireland) Act 1965 was not in breach of article 48 of the EEC Treaty.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in dismissing an application for a writ of *habeas corpus* made on the basis that the applicant's detention at Pentonville prison was contrary to the provision of article 48 and so was unlawful, following the endorsement by the Hampstead Justices on February 20, 1984 of a warrant issuing from the County Cork District Court for his arrest in the United Kingdom on a charge of possessing cannabis for the purpose of supplying it to another, that being an indictable offence.

Mr Alan Newman for the applicant; Mr Simon D. Brown for the governor.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the justices had endorsed a warrant for the arrest and delivery to the Irish police of the defendant under the 1965 Act.

Section 2(1) provided that where: "... a person is arrested under a warrant endorsed in accordance with section 1 of this Act,he shall be brought before a magistrates' court and the court shall, subject to the following provisions of this section, order him to be delivered at some convenient point of departure from the United Kingdom into the custody of a member of the police force (Garda Siochana) of the Republic, and remand him until so delivered."

Section 2(2) provided that no order should be made under section 2(1) if the offence specified in the warrant was not one for which a person might be indictable in the United Kingdom or was of a political character. It was to be observed that apart from the circumstances specified in section 2(2) there was no question of the justices examining the circumstances of the offence in question.

Mr Newman submitted that the detention was unlawful with regard to the provisions of article 48 of the EEC Treaty and EEC Directive No 64/221.

Article 48(3) provides: "[Freedom of movement for workers] shall entail the right, subject to limitations justified on grounds of public policy, public security or public health: .... (b) to move freely within the territory of the member states for this purpose; ...".

Directive No 64/221 was concerned with the behaviour of member states towards foreign nationals with relation to entry or expulsion from their territory. An expulsion was only permitted on grounds of public policy related to the individual's conduct. There was no dispute that the defendant was a "worker" or that the provisions of the Directive applied to him.

Mr Newman submitted that as the justices could not under the 1965 Act consider either the individual's conduct or the question of public policy as was required by article 48(3)(b) the detention under that Act was unlawful.

Mr Newman referred to *R v Saunders* ([1980] QB 72), a decision of the Court of Justice of the European Communities, which decided that a restriction imposed as a penal measure by a member state upon one of its own citizens was a wholly domestic matter outside of the scope of article 48. He sought to distinguish that case on the ground that it did not apply where there was a foreign element.

That submission ignored the premise upon which the decision was based (at p86): "10 ... article 48 ... does not ... aim to restrict the power of the member states to lay down restrictions, within their own territory, on the freedom of movement of all persons subject to their jurisdiction in implementation of domestic criminal law."

Expulsion under the 1965 Act was closely analogous to the implementation of domestic criminal law and was thus outside the scope of article 48.

That view had been taken by the court in *R v Governor of Holloway Prison, Ex parte Kember* ([1980] WLR 1110) in relation to the extradition of a United Kingdom citizen to the United States; and in the case of *Re Virdee* ([1980] CMLR 709) in relation to the surrender to Indian military authorities of an United Kingdom citizen under the Visiting Forces Act 1952.

His Lordship saw no reason to depart from the analysis of *Saunders* arrived at in those cases with which he was wholly in agreement. The application was dismissed.

His Lordship refused an application for a reference to the European Court of Justice.

Mr Justice Mann agreed.

Solicitors: J. D. Spicer & Co, Kilburn: Treasury Solicitor.

Rehearing custody applications

In re R

Where, in a wardship case, doubts had been expressed on the stability of the mother's relationship with her partner, the Court of Appeal could not several months later re-assess the case in the light of the passage of time, Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce sitting with Lord Justice Stephen Brown held on May 10.

HIS LORDSHIP said that if the court were to embark on a retrial of such a case the long-term effect would carry the risk of serious danger to the children by postponing even longer the decision as to their future.

also on page 30

هكذا من الاصل

Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Lessons to be learnt from Fiat's robots

Fiat's Cassino car plant in the beautiful valley below the bloody 1939-45 war battlefield of Monte Cassino is attracting a great deal of attention from the international motor industry these days. There are many lessons to be learnt from the Italian giant's attempt to rectify the mistakes it made 12 years ago when, under pressure from the government, it opened a satellite car plant in the depressed Mezzogiorna region of Southern Italy.

Like the other northern based Italian car maker, Alfa Romeo, which was persuaded to open a factory at Pomigliano, near Naples, Fiat got its priorities wrong. Instead of producing cars by the most cost effective methods of the day it created as many jobs as possible for a labour force composed of seasonal agricultural workers who were alien to the desciplines demanded by a car factory.

The problems which that created in terms of absenteeism and strikes have been too well documented to warrant repeating here. Fiat (and Alfa Romeo) were trying to change a way of life that had existed unchanged for hundreds of years. But by the start of the 1980s they seemed to be making marginally efficient car workers out of men more used to operating crude olive oil presses.

There still remained, however, the problem of over-employment. In 1980 10,000 Cassino workers produced 1,200 cars a day. Today 6,200 workers are turning out 1,300 cars a day.

Two factors made this possible. The most immediate impact came from the Italian system of "casa integrazione", under which surplus employees are sent home and paid 80 per cent of their normal wages. In 1980, 2,700 Cassino employees were made redundant in this way. Four years later 1,000 of them are still without a job and receiving about £350 a month from the "casa", which is jointly funded by the government and public companies.

The second factor was the modernization of the relative new plant so that the entire welding and painting of vehicle bodies is now done by unmanned machinery. The only humans seen in many areas at Cassino are maintenance and quality specialists.

The star attraction for international visitors is Robogate, Fiat's answer to the traditional endless track. It uses computer controlled wheeled carriers to trundle bodies from one automated work station to the next, along an unseen magnetic track in the floor.

Robogate was first introduced some six years ago at Fiat's Rivolta plant near Turin and led to the now famous "Untouched by human hand" advertising campaign for the Ritmo (known in Britain as the Strada).

Extravagant claims were made at that time for the system's remarkable cost-effectiveness, and it was suggested that no car maker could afford not to follow Fiat's example. In fact, very few did and even those manufacturers have used such heavily modified versions that they bear little resemblance to the original, which suffers from the space taken up by the carriers. If placed end to end the 60 carriers at Cassino would need as much space as a large goods train.

Robogate's contribution to the next generation of car making, however, is its extreme flexibility. It lends itself to the production of more than one model on the same manufacturing facilities. Cassino can switch between the new Regata medium saloon and the smaller Ritmo within hours or produce a mixture of the two. And flexibility to react to fast changing demand is the name of the game in today's motor industry. With so much surplus capacity in Europe today the car makers are no longer in the mumbers game. They are using that surplus to reduce reaction time and make what the customer wants, not what manufacturers believe he should have.

Robogate has also been refined and improved in the past six years to the extent that it has reduced the number of man hours required to produce a Ritmo by 30 per cent.

More than half the production costs at Cassino are workers' wages and most of these are employed in the last stronghold of human labour, the final trim and assembly line. So far the complex number of jobs carried out there have defied the march of the robot. But its days are also numbered according to Ing. Aldo Vignale, Cassino's young plant director. He predicts that within three years a new generation of cars designed for final assembly by robots will reduce manning levels "quite significantly".

Austin Montego 1.6HL: Roomy and economic on motorways

Montego on test

Now that all the fuss is dying down after the launch of Austin Rover's Montego it is the appropriate time to take a more considered view of that most important new contender in the family saloon market.

Montegos were made available to the press for a one-day trial run in the south of France more than a month ago. In my view, however, such brief acquaintance does little more than satisfy curiosity about the car's general appearance and an often misleading impression of its on-the-road behaviour.

Driven in strange conditions, a right-hand-drive car in a keep left country, and with too much effort directed to not getting lost, is hardly the ideal setting for a careful assessment.

On the other hand I appreciate the need for manufacturers to go south at that time of year to ensure that months of careful and costly planning are not jeopardized by the snow and ice which can and do assault these islands in March.

But to do justice to any car it needs to be driven several times over a familiar test route, including daily commuting to the office. I then have a direct comparison with the performance, ride and road holding of competitive cars driven over the same terrain.

The model chosen for testing last week was the Montego 1.6. I would have preferred the anticipated big seller, the 1.6L, but had to settle for the more fully equipped 1.6HL.

The first thing that has to be said about Montego is that it is a big car at a shade under 15ft long and gives the appearance of being even bigger. It is also eye-catching with its fluted side panels and graceful slimline headlights.

A burst water main on the London North Circular road trapped me in a huge traffic jam and demonstrated its appeal. In no time drivers were qitting their cars for a closer look at the Montego.

They were all complimentary except one astute character who said flatly, "It is another Cortina". He was trying to be disparaging but Austin Rover's chairman, Mr Harold Musgrove, would have loved him for his choice of words. He would like nothing better than for Montego to step into Cortina's profitable shoes, a task which the replacement Sierra has failed to do.

On the road it is immediately apparent that Montego is the best medium-priced riding car yet built by Austin Rover. It even matches much more expensive Rover saloons with a softer ride than its half brother, Maestro, giving the impression more of a French than a British car.

But unlike many of them it does not roll excessively on fast bends. True, it does not corner with the "on rails" ability of some but is sure, safe and quite pleasant to handle.

The new 1.6 engine is such a significant improvement of the R series from which it is derived that owners of R series equipped Maestros will rightly feel aggrieved. In fairness to Autin Rover, however, it should be said that the new engine has also been fitted to Maestros since March.

The additional development work is obvious in its refinement being noticeably quieter and smoother than the R series. It is also a first-time starter which gets into its stride without the hesitation and grumbles of some of its rivals.

It revs eagerly but becomes rather breathless and thrashy at over 4,500 rpm. However the ratios in the five-speed VW gearbox are well-matched to its torque curve and the lack of urge at higher revs is only noticeable when pushing the car to the limit.

The trend-setting new light pressure belts attracted my interest in France for their added comfort on a long run. However it is not until you have experienced the actual lack of restriction across the lap and chest that you appreciate what a difference the lighter recoil springs and slippery belt material make to more relaxed driving.

Montego is a roomy car with more leg room at front and rear than both the Sierra and the Cavalier. It also has the largest boot together with an extension in the boot lid between the lamp clusters to ease loading of awkward or heavy luggage.

Montego is an economical motorway car, thanks to its high overdrive fifth gear. At an indicated 90mph it is only turning over at 3,500 rpm. On mixture of fast motorway and more leisurely commuting I returned an overall consumption of 36 mpg.

Vital statistics

Model: Montego 1.6HL
Price: £6,875
Engine: 1,598cc
Performance: Maximum speed 102 mph, 0-70 mph 10.9 seconds
Official consumption: Urban 31.9 mpg 56 mph 53.5 mpg and 75 mph 38.8 mpg
Length: 14.9ft.
Insurance group: Under negotiation.

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THEREFORE, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder. Isaiah 29:14

BIRTHS

AGASS – On May 4th at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Mary (nee Slack) and Martyn – a daughter, Olivia Mary Helen.

DANNATT.–On May 10th, at B M H. Rinteln, to Philippa (nee Gurney) and Richard – a son (Oliver William Jack).

GODDARD. On 9th May at the West London Hospital to Sian (nee Williams) and Nicholas, a daughter (Alice Sarah Emily).

GOLDIE – On 7th May, at Lindo wing, St Mary's hospital, to Sue and Ian – a son, Stuart Douglas.

HACKETT. – On May 7th 1984 to Pippa (nee Norcliffe Roberts) and Edward, a daughter Flavia Elizabeth.

HAWKINS – On 9th May to Jasmin and John, a son Leo, a brother for Rachel and Jessica.

HUTTON On May 3rd to Annie (nee Morgan) and Ian – a son (Richard David)

JUBBER – On May 8th to Caroline (nee Savin) and Charles – a son, William David Ritchie, a brother for Robin, Andrew and Olivia

MILROY – On April 23rd 1984 to Marion and Andrew, a daughter, Laura Elizabeth.

MONEY–On May 10th to Sally (nee Staples) and John Kyrle, a daughter Kate

PELLEW-HARVEY – [illegible]

BIRTHDAYS

MARRIAGES

DEATHS

ROLLINSON – On May 4th at the Abbeyfield Home, 7 The Goffs, Eastbourne, Frank, aged 84, dear father of Pamela and one-time Ministry of Labour, Nottingham. Cremation at Eastbourne Crematorium on Friday, 11th May at 1.30 pm. Donations to the Lifeboats or the Spastics Association. In Heavenly Love abiding.

ROLLASON – On May 9th, peacefully at home after a long illness, Melvyn Howard, aged 85 years, of The Garden House, Sevenhampton, nr Swindon (formerly of North Rye House, nr Moreton-in-Marsh, Glos). Funeral service and cremation at Cheltenham Crematorium on Monday, May 14th, at 11.30 am. Enquiries to S. C. & B. S. Cocks, Funeral Directors, Glos 67892.

THOMAS. – on May 5th, 1984, suddenly at his home, Alfred Gordon Thomas, of Rowland, near Bakewell, dearly beloved husband of Marjorie and dearest father of Michael, Angela and Nicholas. Service at St Giles Church, Gt Longstone, at 2 pm, on Thursday, May 17th, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations for Newholme Hospital, Bakewell, c/o J. W. & J. Mettam Ltd., Mill Street, Bakewell. Tel: Bakewell 2114.

TURNER.–On May 5th, Grace, beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Late of the Old Vic and Covent Garden. Funeral at South London Crematorium on Monday, May 14th at 12 noon. Flowers to Ashton Funeral Services, 369 Clapham Road, SW9. Enquiries 01-939 2917

WHALE On May 9th at her home Yvonne Ernestine (nee Sydenham) beloved wife of Royce Whale, mother of Wendy, Timothy and Jeremy and grandmother of Roger, Annabel, Chloe and Henry. Funeral service at Golders Green Crematorium, Endford Chapel on Thursday, May 17th at 2.10 pm. Flowers to Cooksey & Son Ltd, 190 Fortis Green, Rd N.10

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BISHOP – Edward Stanley, Lord Bishopston of Newark, P.C., service of thanksgiving will be held at Newark Parish Church on Thursday May 17th at 2.30 pm. A service will also be held at St Margaret's Westminster at a date to be announced.

CROSSLEY. A joyful service of thanksgiving for the life of Laurance former Clerk to the Uxbridge Justices will be held at Emmanuel Church, High Street, Northwood on Friday May 18th at 3.00pm. (within walking distance of the underground station)

NEWMAN – A memorial service for George Kent Newman, O.B.E., M.A., will be held at the chapel of Lincoln's Inn on Monday, 21st May at 5.00pm.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 **Ceefax AM.** News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without teletext facility.

6.30 **Breakfast Time with Selina Scott and Mike Smith.** News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; gardening hints between 7.30 and 7.45; pop music news between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 **MacLeod in Japan.** This morning he is one of the 5,000 crowd goggle-eyed at the sight of two 25 stone Sumo wrestlers hugging the breath out of one another (r) 9.25 **Ceefax** 10.30 **Play School,** presented by Carol Chell (r) 10.55 **Ceefax.**

12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from *Jim* Bacon 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles).

1.00 **Pebble Mill at One** includes a dahlia growers' competition; Chinese tumblers walking-on stilts; and music from Moira Anderson *1.45* **Heads and Tails.** A See-Saw programme for the very young (r).

2.00 **Racing from Lingfield.** Julian Wilson introduces coverage of the Tender King Stakes (2.15); the Warner Holidays Stakes (2.45); the Esal Bookmakers Oaks Trials Stakes (3.15) and the Tender Heart Stakes (3.45) 3.53 Regional news (not London).

3.55 **Play School,** presented by Brian Jameson 4.15 **Six Classic Fairy Tales.** Sheila Hancock with the tale of Rapunzel 4.25 **The Record Breakers.** Roy Castle presents another selection of exemplary feats (r) 4.50 **So You Want to Be Top.** Everything you want to know about school survival (r) 5.05 **Codename Icarus.** Episode three of the five-part drama *about* missile sabotage (r).

5.40 **Sixty Minutes** begins with the news read by Jan Leeming; followed by weather at 5.54; regional news magazines at 5.55; and ending with news headlines at 6.38.

6.40 **The Pink Panther Show.** Three cartoons (r).

7.00 **Odd One Out.** Five contestants *challenge last week's winner* in a series of questions to find which word, picture or music clue is *different from the rest.* Paul Daniels is the presenter.

7.30 **Fame.** Sandy Bailey, a former *pupil of the High School for the* Performing Arts, rusticated because of a drink problem, *returns to the fold but soon* slips back into his old habits.

8.20 *The Time of Your Life.* **Noel** Edmonds re-creates a memorable month from the *swinging 60s.*

9.00 News with John Humphrys.

9.25 **Starsky and Hutch.** The *intrepid policemen disguise* themselves as heroin dealers when on the trail of a drugs *ring* (r).

10.15 **Pinkerton's Progress.** Comedy series about the staff of a minor public school (r).

10.45 News headlines and weather.

10.50 *Film: The Boss's Son (1978)* starring Asher Brauner, Rita Moreno and Rudy Solari. Fresh from college, armed with a business degree, young Bobby Rose learns the hard way about *life in his father's* carpet mill. Directed by Bobby Roth. Ends at 12.25.

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; the weekend's best buys at 6.40 and 8.45; angling advice at 6.45; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; Popeye cartoon at 7.25; *guest of the* day, Judy Loe, at 7.40 and 8.15; pop video at 7.55; Jeni Barnett's *post bag at 8.20;* Jimmy Greaves's week end television highlights at 8.35; *Beauty spot at 9.05*

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news** headlines. 9.30 **For Schools:** The natural history of a Derbyshire Dale. 9.50 History in a country church. 10.09 A child suffering from spina bifida. 10.26 The use of adverbs. 10.46 A-level chemistry. 11.05 English: part one of the drama, Izzy, by Jan Mark. 11.22 Part two of the Indian legend, the Golden Antelope. 11.40 Reproduction and human relationships.

11.55 **Wattoo Wattoo.** Cartoon series. 12.00 **Alfie Atkins.** 12.10 **Rainbow.** Learning with puppets. 12.30 **On the Market.** Susan Brookes and Trevor Hyett with the weekend's best food buys.

1.00 **News with Leonard Parkin.** 1.20 **Thames news** from Robin Houston. 1.30 **About Britain.** *Architect Mike Jenner* explores the glories of Bath. **2.00 Look Who's Talking.** With *Derek Batey is entertainer* Leslie Crowther (r).

2.30 **Return of the Saint.** Smooth *Simon tries to trace an odd* chap who threatens to blow up London if a beautiful girl is not *guillotined in public (r).* 3.30 **Sons and Daughters.**

4.00 **Rainbow.** A repeat of the programme *shown at 12.10.* 4.20 **Aubrey.** 4.25 **The Wind in the Willows.** More delightful *adventures based on the* Kenneth Grahame characters. **4.50 Freetime.** Ideas for young *people with time on their* hands. **5.15 The Young Doctors.**

5.45 **News.** *6.00* **The Six O'Clock Show,** with Michael Aspel.

7.00 **The Pyramid Game.** Two *member-of-the-public* contestants are joined by Victoria Wood and John *Junkin in a fast-moving test of* powers of description.

7.30 **Hardcastle and McCormick.** The ill-matched but effective crime fighters find themselves pitted against a suave and sophisticated thief.

8.30 **That's My Boy.** Comedy series starring Mollie Sugden as the possessive mother of her now-adult son she abandoned as a child (Oracle titles page 170).

9.00 **Marlowe – Private Eye.** The laconic lawman fights corruption at City Hall and immediately becomes a hunted man. Who is it that is trying to kill him off? Starring Powers Boothe (Oracle titles page 170).

10.00 **News.**

10.30 **The London Programme** investigates private homes for old people. Enquiries over the past year have revealed instances of old people being abused and exploited.

11.00 **Shoot Pool!** Another round of the best-of-eleven frames tournament for the John Bull Bitter London Pool *Championship.*

12.00 **South of Watford.** Ben Elton with a wry look at the way of *life of Londoners.*

12.30 **Highway Patrol*.** Vintage crime series starring Broderick *Crawford (r) followed by* **Night Thoughts** from Deaconess Helen Starns.

Dr Judy Greenwood: Sex Matters (Channel 4 10.30pm)

CHOICE

● Patrick McNee, the smooth, dapper and ruthless former Avenger re-appears on British television tonight as the smooth, dapper and ruthless Calvin Cromwell in a newly imported American comedy series, **EMPIRE** (BBC 9.00pm). Set in the head offices of a giant international conglomerate, ruled through fear by chairman Cromwell ('anxiety breeds excellence'), the six part series gets off to a cracking start with the board directors being thrown into various states of panic by the calling of an emergency board meeting. Paranoia rules as the reasons for this meeting are mulled over by the directors – privately, a bunch of nervous wrecks, publicly, brimming over with bonhomie and confidence. Into this *piranha tank of vice presidents is* hurled the latest of their number, one Ben Christain, a neophyte in the world of big business, promoted to the board from his research laboratory at the behest of Cromwell. Immediately treated with disdain by the rest of the board he later becomes he subject of their hilarious unease. As with all the best American comedy the episodes are comparatively short and the timing of the delivery of the dialogue is perfect – two plusses that auger well for the remaining five episodes.

● Yorkshire Television's controversial series, **SEX MATTERS** (Channel 4 10.30pm) has found itself in censorship troubles even before it has been screened. Part one, which should have been shown tonight, has been withdrawn to be bowdlerized and will be seen in its re-cut state as programme number six. In its place tonight is part two, Couples, in which the eminently sensible sex counsellor, Dr Judy Greenwood, interviews nine couples who have had problems arising from living together but who have managed to overcome their various crises. These include unfaithfulness, anger and the need to preserve one's independence whether married or living together, heterosexually or homosexually.

● *Caryl Phillips, in the final* programme of the series **THE SPORTING LIFE** (Radio 4, 4.10pm), examines Sport and *the Black* Community. Why is it, Mr Phillips asks, that some sports attract black people while other remain the domain of the whites? Is society's attitude to black athletes a reflection of what society thinks of all blacks? Mr Phillips searches deep for the answers.

BBC 2

6.05 **Open University: Maths Modelling: Knots** 6.30 Introduction to Sociology 6.55 Images: The Third Dimension 7.20 Chemical Reactions 7.45 Pathways to the Brain. Ends at 8.10

9.08 *Daytime on Two:* The economic struggle of the Great Lake city of Cleveland 9.28 **Ceefax** 9.52 Sex education for eight-to-10-year olds 10.15 Lesley Judd with ideas on how to reduce fat intake 10.40 Houses: The Solution.

10.45 **Ceefax** 11.00 Art projects about their community by children from Yorkshire and Dorset 11.22 Part one of Ian Taylor's Hungry Times. With subtitles 11.42 **Ceefax** 12.05 Computer studies.

12.30 **Ceefax** 2.01 Teenage temper and how it can be controlled 2.30 Journalism – with David Emery of the Daily Star and Jill Eckersley of Look Now. Ends at 2.50

3.00 **Ceefax**

5.05 **Weekend Outlook.** A preview of the weekend's Open University programmes.

5.10 **Broadcast Rituals.** An Open University production that examines the BBC's expertise in the coverage of the great rituals of the nation (r).

5.35 **News** summary with subtitles.

5.40 **Cartoon Two.**

5.45 **Film: West of the Pecos*** (1945) starring Robert Mitchum and Barbara Hale. A lively cowboy adventure with Mitchum playing the cool ranch hand who comes to the aid of a wealthy banker and his attractive daughter who find themsleves in the middle of an attack on their ranch. Directed by Edward Killy.

6.50 **Eight Days a Week** presented by Robin Denselow. With his guests, Drummie Zeb of Aswad and Tracie, Mr Denselow takes a critical look at the week's new films, records, videos and concerts.

7.20 **America.** Part three of Allstair Cooke's personal history of his adopted country (r).

8.10 ***My Music.*** *The first of a new* series of musical quizzes.

8.35 **Gardeners' World.** Geoff *Hamilton prepares and sows* a lawn; Anne Mayo tackles bulbs after flowering; and Betty *Metcalfe has new ideas about* cultivating French beans and tomatoes.

9.00 **Empire.** The first of a new comedy series of boardroom farces (see Choice).

9.25 **All Our Working Lives.** Part five of the 11-episode series about Britain at work in the 20th century examines the lot of the aircraft workers (Ceefax titles page 170).

10.25 **Jazz at the Leadmill.** The guests are blues singer, Jimmy Witherspoon with Danny Moss and his Quartet.

10.55 **Newsnight.**

11.40 **Foxwatch.** The final programme of the series about urban foxes (r). Ends at 12.05.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 **Wayne and Shuster.** This Canadian comics take another wry look at life, this week, concentrating on the world of food.

5.30 **The Addams Family*** More macabre humour from the ghoulish family group. This evening poor Uncle Fester abruptly loses all his electrical *energy. The rest of the family* ponder the problem of whether to call an electrician or a *doctor to help restore Fester* to his normal self.

6.00 **High Band: Tina Turner – Nice 'n' Rough.** A strength-sapping video recorded live at a concert in 1982. The unsubtle but supple singer pumps out all her best known songs including her biggest hit, River *Deep, Mountain High.*

7.00 **Channel Four News.**

7.30 **Right to Reply.** *Presented by* Gus MacDonald. Another chance for Channel Four viewers to air their views on any of Channel 4's programmes. This evening, David Cohen, producer of Passage to Britain, answers criticisms of last week's programme on Irish immigration.

8.00 **A Week in Politics,** presented by *Peter Jay reports from* Nottinghamshire on the miners on strike and those who want *to work. Arthur Scargill is* interviewed. Plus a preview of June's Euro-elections.

8.40 ***What the Papers Say.*** Freelance journalist Godfrey Hodgson reviews the millions *of words that have been* printed this week in Fleet Street and beyond.

9.00 **Agony.** Comedy series about a lonely hearts columnist with marriage problems of her own. *Maureen Lipman stars as Jane* who, this week, has no time for her recently returned-to-*the-fold husband when the* next door neighbours turn to her for advice when their *marriage goes through a rocky* patch.

9.30 **It Takes a Worried Man** Roath is disturbed by his girl friend's rather flippant attitude to birth control.

10.00 **Cheers.** The boys of the Boston bar are captivated by an antique weighing machine bought by Coach. It's not their weight they are concerned about, it is the fortune-telling side-line of the machine that makes it more addictive than a space invader.

10.30 **Sex Matters.** A new six part series from Yorkshire Television (see Choice).

11.15 **The Late Clive James.** Heroes tonight's topic. Talking about their's are Tom Stoppard, Marina Warner and John Wells.

12.15 **Jazz at the Gateway.** Oscar Peterson's guests are Mike Westbrook's Brass Band and the Francois Jeanneau Quartet.

1.00 **Closedown.**

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45* Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.0, 8.0 Today's News. 7.25*, 8.25* Sport. 7.45* Thought for the Day. 8.35* Yesterday in Parliament. *8.50* Your Letters.*
8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs (†) Soprano, Rosalind Plowright.
9.45 Feedback. Colin Semper pursues your criticisms of, and questions about, the BBC and its programmes.
10.00 News: International Assignment.
10.30 Morning Story: 'You Just Don't *Know' by Brian Glanville.*
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 Analysis. 'The Pit and the Pendulum' – the NUM'S struggle to unite miners behind a national strike shows how for the pendulum of power has swung in *working Britain. Mary Goldring* outlines the changes and asks how permanent they are likely to be.
11.48 Natural selection. *A profile of the* ubiquitous flea. John Maunder examines the history of the creature that can high-jump seven inches, long-jump 13 inches, pull chariots and cause devastating plagues.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer advice presented by John Howard. The programme includes the second in the series Called to Account which closely examines the trades and professions. Today it is the turn *of the insurance business. Do* policy holders get a fair deal?
12.27 My Music (†) Musical panel games 12.55 Weather: Programme News
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Manchester. Lesley Judd discovers what happened to Tom Burke, the Lancashire miner whom Caruso chose as his successor, 65 years ago. Plus *Peter Reeves meets Rochdale's* Fijian population.
3.00 News: Our Mutual Friend (†) by Charles Dickens (7).
4.00 News: Time for Verse (†).
4.10 The Sporting Life. Seven programmes on the sporting *scene in Britain (3) Sport and the* Black Community.
4.40 Story Time: "Time After Time' by *Molly Kearne* (last of 12 parts).
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather: Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'clock News; *Financial* Report.
6.30 Going Places. The world of transport and travel.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week (†). Programme *highlights with Margaret Howard.*
8.20 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.45 Any Questions? From the *European Parliament Building,* Brussels. With Christopher Tugendhat, vice-president of the European Commission, Robin Cook, MP, *Detta O'Cathain* of the Milk Marketing Board and Niels J. Haagerup, a Danish member of the European Parliament.
9.30 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine.
10.15 *A Book at Bedtime: 'Against the* Stream' by James Hanley (5).
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.00 Today in Parliament.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week's news.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Close, shipping forecast.

ENGLAND: VHF with †† above except: 6.25-6.30 am Weather: Travel. 10.45-12.0 For Schools: 10.45 Capricorn Club No 1. 11.5 Music Workshop. 11.35 Playtime. 11.50-12.0 See For Yourself. 1.55-2.0 pm Listening Corner. 2.0-3.0 For Schools: 2.0 Noticeboard. 2.5 Let's Join In. 2.25 One World. 2.40 Make Up Your Mind. *5.50-5.55 PM* (continued). 11.0-12.0 am Study on 4: 11.0 Action Makes the Heart Grow Stronger. 11.30 Prefaces to Shakespeare 'The Tempest'. 12.30-1.10 am Schools Night-Time Broadcasting: La Parole Aux Jeunes (1-4).

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. *7.00* News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Tchaikovsky's Legend, Liszt's Legende No 2, Dvorak Legende 8 and 9, Wieniawski's Legende, Sibelius's Legend No 1. 8.00 News.†
8.05 Concert: part two, Nielsen's Faroes Journey Overture, Howells's Rhapsodic Quintet, Enesco's Romanian Rhapsody No 2, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. 9.00 News.†
9.05 This Week's Composer: Smetana. Prague Carnival, String Quartet No 2, Ma Vlast 5 and 6.†
10.00 Hamish Milne (piano): Beethoven's Sonata Les Adieux, *Dussek's Sonata Op* 44, L'Adieu.†
10.50 Northern Sinfonia. Works by *Cimarosa, Haydn* (Symp No 26, Lamentatione), Lalo, Falla.†
11.45 Norma Burrowes (soprano). Songs by Strauss, Schubert.†
12.05 Midday Concert: BBC Philharmonic Orch: Britten's Four Sea Interludes from Peter *Grimes, Haydn's Symph No* 103 (Drum-roll). 1.00 News.†
1.05 Six Continents. Ian McDougall.
1.20 Midday Concert: part two. Dvorak's symph No 5.†
2.00 University of Wales recital. Lindsay String Quartet: *Beethoven Quartet Op 95, Tippett* Quartet No 4, Haydn Quartet Op 77 No 2. Interval reading at 2.50.†
3.30 Dutch music. Academy of St Martin in the Fields, Neville Mariner. Locatelli, Eassenaer, Johan Gabriel Meder (Symph in C Op 3, *No 1*).†
4.00 Choral Evensong. From Chapel of King's College, Cambridge. Introit and Responses by Radcliffe. Elgar Anthem. 4.55 News.†
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure. David Hoult *introduces British composers'* lighter music.†
6.30 Music for Guitar. Siegfried Behrend plays works by Brescianello.†
7.00 Marc-Antoine Charpentier. Te Deum in D, Mari Anne Haggander *(soprano).*†
7.30 Endellion String Quartet, direct from Birmingham Broadcasting Centre. Haydn Quartet Op 74 No 1, Bartok Quartet No 3.
8.15 Smollett at Large. Travels of Tobias Smollett read by Alan McNaughton.
8.35 Endellion String Quartet: part two. Mozart Clarinet Quintet in A, K 581, with Andrew Marriner.
9.15 The Ghost in the Atom. Paul Davies, professor of Theoretical Physics at Newcastle University, *examines the results of the tests* on Einstein's alternative to the quantum theory and explores the surprising conclusions physicists have drawn about the nature of matter and the universe.
10.00 Bach. Concerto BMV 1065 and *Overture No 4 in D, BMW* 1069. The English Concert, Trevor Pinnok.
10.30 Seven Poems of Robert Bridges. BBC Singers, settings by Gerald Finzi.
11.15 News. Until 11.18. *VHF ONLY: Open University:* 6.15-6.55am 6.15 Education or Training? 6.35 An Enlightened Historian. 11.20-11.40pm Anatomy of Reading.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00pm and 9.00). Major bulletins: 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines: 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30am 4.00am Bill Rennells†. 5.30 Ray Moore†. 7.30 Terry Wogan†. 8.31 Racing Bulletin. 10.00 Russell Harty†. 12.00pm Steve *Jones†incl.* 1.05, 2.02 *Sport.* 2.05 *Gloria* Hunniford†incl. 3.2 Sport. 3.15 Racing from Lingfield Park: The Esal Oaks Trial. 3.30 Music All The Way†incl. 4.2 Sport. 4.05 David Hamilton†incl. 5.5, 6.2 Sport. 6.05 John Dunn†incl. 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.30 Cricket Scores; *Friday Night is Music* Night†direct from the Gloucester Hall, Fort Regent, Jersey. 8.20-8.40* Tony Barnfield reports on the island's activities and talks to some of tonight's artists. 9.30 The Organist Entertains†. Nigel Ogden introduces news and views from the popular organ world. 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 The Best of Bentine. Michael Bentine's one-man show. 10.30 *Sounds of Wales. The musical sounds* of Wales with Brian Hoey. 11.00 Stuart Hall (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Jean Challis†presents Nightride. 3.00-4.00 Night Owls†with Dave Gelly.

Radio 1

6.00am Mark Page. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Gary Davies, including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00pm Adrian John. 4.30 *Select a Disc* with Janice Long. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable with Richard Skinner. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance (stereo from 10.00). VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2 4.00am with Radio 2. 10.00pm with *Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am with Radio 2*

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Pageant of the Past. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 *Patrick Martyn's Music Box. 7.45 Merchant* Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The World of Singing. 8.30 Women Of Mystery. 9.00 World News. 9.09 *Reviews of the British Press. 9.15 The World* Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.00 World News 11.09 News *About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime.* 11.25 Ulster Newsletter 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 *The Marijuana Kid* 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 *World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four hours. 8.30* Middlemarch 9.00 London Royal. 9.15 Music Now 9.45 Viliena. 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 Financial News. *10.40 Reflections. 10.45* Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Divers For The World. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah And Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 London Royal. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today 3.30 The Mutiny of HMS Bounty. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.40 Book Choice. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

BBC1 WALES 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales Headlines. 3.53-3.55 News of Wales Headlines. 5.55 Wales Today. 10.15-11.05 Week In Week Out. 11.05-11.06 News headlines. 11.06-12.45 Film: 'Two People' (Peter Fonda). 12.45 Weather. SCOTLAND 10.55am-12.30 Conference '84. 12.55pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 5.55 Scotland: Sixty Minutes. 10.15-10.45 The Beechgrove Garden. 10.45-11.13 Agenda. 11.13-11.15 News summary. *11.15-1.05am* Film: 'The Strange Love of Martha Ivers' (1946) (Barbara Stanwyck). 1.05 *Weather.* NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 New headlines. 10.50-12.30am Film: 'Two People' (1972) (Peter Fonda). 12.30 News *headlines and weather.* ENGLAND North East only: 12.00-12.30pm Wildfowl of Washington. 5.55 Regional news magazine. 10.15 East – Weekend. Midlands – The Barmaid's Arms. North – Gardeners' Direct Line. North East – Make It In Business. North West – Outlook. South – *'Moments'.* South West – A House In Bath. 12.42am Close.

HTV WEST As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Wonder Bar* (Al Jolson). 3.30-4.40 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 In The Garden. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 West This Week. 11.00 Darts. 11.30 Lou Grant. 12.30 am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 9.30 am-9.45 Wales and the Sea. 11.05-11.20 *About Wales.* 6.00 pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30 Elinor. 11.15 Lou Grant. 12.45 am Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

ANGLIA *As London except:* 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: John and Julie (Moira Lister). Children run away to see Coronation. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00-7.30 About Anglia. 10.30 Cycling. 11.00 Cross Question. 11.35 Film: Straight on *Till Morning (Rita Tushingham).* 1.20am People Like Us, Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Bud Abbott and Lou Costello in Hollywood.* 3.30-4.00 Joanie Loves Chachi. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Weir's Way. 10.35 Ways and *Means. 11.05 Hill Street Blues.* 12.00 Late Call. 12.05 am African Choco. 12.35 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00-3.30 Film: Rockets Galore* (Donald Sinden). 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.02 Vintage Quiz. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 *Fall Guy. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Film:* One Eyed Soldiers. 1.30am Three's Company, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 On the Market. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Hear Here. 2.15-3.30 Film: Escort for Hire (Peter Murray) Comedy. 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00-7.00 Calendar. 7.30-8.30 *Fall Guy. 10.30 Snooker. 11.15 Film:* Nightmare (Richard Crenna). 12.40 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Cleggs People. 2.30 Falcon Crest. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 *Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00* North Tonight. 10.30 Country Focus. 11.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Bizarre. 12.30 am News.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Yn eu cynefin. 2.20 Ston Sbri. 2.35 Hyn o Fyd. 2.55 Old Country. 3.20 Today's History. 3.50 Everybody Here. 4.15 Countdown. 4.45 Lan Lofft. 5.00 Anturiaethau Syr *Wynff a Plwmsan.* 5.30 *Addams Family.* 6.00 High Band. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Taro Tant. 8.00 Pobol y Cwm. 8.30 Y Byd yn Ei Le. 9.15 Cheers. 9.45 Kingfisher. 11.10 Soap. 11.40 Here and Now. 12.25am Closedown.

GRANADA *As London except:* 12.30 pm-1.00 At Ease. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 On the Market. 2.00 Film: Carry on Matron. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00 News. 6.05-7.00 Weekend. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 9 to 5. 11.00 Film: King Rat (George Segal). 1.30 am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Falcon Crest. 3.00-3.30 In Loving Memory. 5.15-5.45 Take The High Road. 6.00-7.30 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Just William. 11.00 Film: Breaking Out. Trio flee geriatric ward in search of adventure. 12.50 am Company. Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm News. 2.00 Film: Night Rider. 3.20-3.30 Cartoon. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 Wht's on Where. 10.34 Concert at Killerton. 12.45am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 1.20 pm News. 1.30-3.30 *Film: Little Foxes* (Bette Davis).* 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.35 Sweeney. 11.35 Film: Hunting Party (Oliver Reed). 1.20 am Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Look Who's Talking. 2.30 Quentin E. Deverill. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Nature Trail. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Union and the League. 10.30 Irish RM. 11.30 Darkroom. 12.20 am News, *Closedown.*

TSW As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 *News. 2.00 Film: Night* Rider. Thriller. 3.20-3.30 Cartoon. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today Suth West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.34 Concert at Killerton. 11.05 Folm: Family Secrets. Wife controlled by violence. 12.45 am Postscript, Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.00 *Look Who's Talking. 2.30-4.00 Film: I* Only Arsked (Bernard Bresslaw). 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Race Is On. 11.05 Magnum. 12.00 News, Closedown.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: *1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5;* Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Entertainments

WPC Fletcher – unlawfully killed by embassy bullet

By Michael Horsnell

Commander William Hucklesby, head of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch, said yesterday that investigations into the murder of Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher would continue and that 400 lines of inquiry were being pursued.

He was speaking after a jury at Westminster coroner's court found that WPC Fletcher, aged 25, was unlawfully killed outside the Libyan People's Bureau in London on April 17.

After a 90-minute retirement the jury of five men and five women found WPC died from a firearm wound to the abdomen caused by a bullet fired from one of two windows on the building's first floor at about 10.20 am.

Commander Hucklesby said inquiries included tracing the origin of guns allegedly found by the Libyans in the British embassy in Tripoli, for which serial numbers had been provided by a Libyan news agency, and continuing forensic tests on the weapons found at the bureau in London.

More than 100 people have been interviewed and 200 statements obtained.

After the inquest, at which 24 witnesses gave evidence, Mr Ian Walker, a solicitor for thr Police Federation representing the Fletcher family, said: "At the moment I have no instructions from the family as to whether they want to take matters further but a claim against the Libyans is an option they may look at.

There is also the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to be considered and there may be other remedies which may be pursued."

It emerged yesterday that the Police Memorial Trust, established to commemorate police officers killed in the course of duty, intends to put up a memorial to WPC Fletcher.

WPC Fletcher's injuries were so severe that no medical intervention could have saved her and she died in hospital just over two hours after being hit, Dr Iain West, consultant forensic pathologist at St Thomas's Hospital Medical School, told the inquest.

He said she died from an abdomen wound havind been shot in the right side of the back by a bullet striking her from a 60-degree angle. The bulet entered her liver, struck her spine, severed the pancreas, re-entered the liver and started to "tumble" before emerging at the junction of the chest and abdomen. It ruptured the main vein.

The bullet pierced her tunic lining as it came to rest and is believed to have been the one found in the ambulance which took her to hospital.

The shot was obviously fired from the bureau's first or second floor, he said. The bullet was a 9mm fired from a submachinegun and WPC Fletcher may have been the first victim to be hit.

Mr Robin Keely, a police forensic scientist, said tests showed guns were fired from two windows in the ambassador's large general waiting room where firearms residue was found.

Commander Huclesby said the 30 Libyans escorted from the bureau at the end of the 10-day siege to Sunningdale were questioned by police who established their identity. Then they were flown to Tripoli.

A four-day search of the building starting on April 30 revealed 4,367 rounds of ammunition, four .38 revolvers, three self-loading pistols with loading magazines, Sterling submachinegun magazines, body armour and bomb blankets.

He had no evidence to identify positively two of the 30 people released from the bureau as responsible for the shooting. All 30 remained suspects. The police had no warning before the shooting, he added.

In answer to a question from Mr Walker, he said 22 of the 30 had diplomatic status sufficient to protect them from prosecution.

Mr Brian Arnold, a forensic scientist, said the bullet which killed WPC Fletcher came from a Sterling sub-machine gun but two such weapons were almost certainly fired. The simultaneous firing of these could sound like the more rapid-firing Ingram sub-machine gun which a police witness told the inquest on Wednesday that he thought he had heard.

Mr Arnold said he knew of no weapon other than the Sterling which produced the type of mark his examination revealed from the bullet found in the ambulance.

Last night anti-terrorist squad officers said one of the guns found in the Bureau could have been used by assassins who killed Mr Mohammed Ramadan, a Libyan journalist, outside the Regent's Park mosque in April 1980.

● Britain has allowed 197 Libyans into the country since April 17. Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, said in the Commons. Most were returning from short visits abroad and had visas issued before April 17, he said.

Parliament, page 4



Arms cache: Guns and ammunition from the Libyan People's Bureau displayed yesterday. They included sets of armour, placed here on a *dummy, two .38* Cobra Colt revolvers, a 9mm Parabellom spent cartridge case found by a window in the building and sub-machine gun parts (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

British Greens prepare election battle lines

By David Cross

The British Ecology Party, which is fielding 15 candidates *in the forthcoming European* elections, yesterday unveiled a campaign manifesto designed to turn the EEC into a European Ecological Community.

At a press conference in London, leaders of the party said that fundamental changes were required to the Treaty of Rome to transform the EEC into a federation of regions rather than a grouping of nation states. The party's manifesto was drawn up as a joint campaign platform for all the Green parties in Europe, including the powerful West German contingent.

The 16-page document entitled "Towards a Green Europe" pinpoints five key areas in which the ecological parties of Europe seek modifications to the Treaty of Rome. These are peace, environment, work, energy and agriculture.

None of them stands a chance of being elected under Britain's first-past-the-post electoral system – a major bone of contention

Letter from the Alamo

Treasured symbol of Texan spirit

It is 97 degrees, a brutal spring day even for south Texas. The bleached-white walls of the mission San Antonio de Valero are hot as coals.

It is cool inside where the Daughters of the Republic of Texas are showing off a couple of Davy Crockett's rifles and a collection of old Colts and Winchesters.

This is a shrine, a place revered in the romance and legend of Texas. This is the Alamo, where Texas had its Mafeking, and 187 Americans died fighting for their state's independence from Mexico in 1836. It is crumbling very slowly, very mysteriously, into dust.

It is a building of dubious historical authenticity. Nobody tells you that the chapel, the principal building, has had 10 new roofs over the years, or that the famous façade did not exist when the place was a Christian Mission – that adornment was built by the United States Army when it turned the place into a fort. They painted it battleship grey.

And the building that houses the museum came along in the 1930s as part of a public works programme during the Depression, though there is no sign telling you so.

Despite these and other historical imperfections, the Alamo is a treasured symbol of the dogged spirit of Texas. The decay of the little that remains of the old structure eats at the very heart of a state so totally enraptured by itself and by its history.

Nobody is quite sure why the walls are crumbling. It may be the effects of underground water seepage, or the result of chemical damage from previous preservation measures. The Daughters of the Republic of Texas, who protect the shrine under a legislative fiat of 1905, have engaged experts to isolate the cause.

The Daughters raise funds by selling junk in a tourists' shop. There is no entrance fee. The Alamo (the name is from the Spanish for whitewood tree) is bang in the middle of San Antonio and is under constant siege by buses, ice cream men and hawkers of all manner of rubbish. Thanks to the 1960 John Wayne epic, it is a top tourist spot.

The Daughers' stewardship of the Alamo is often criticized by those who would like to turn it into a commercial going concern, as well as by historical purists. High on one wall, for example, is a picture depicting the battle of El Alamo – but Davy Crockett looks distinctly like John Wayne surrounded by a heap of dead bodies. He is backed up by look-alikes of Richard Widmark and Laurence Harvey. Such panderings to populism make historians wince but the Daughters say that children like it.

Many a person has produced new ideas to turn the Alamo into a business venture but the Daughters are resistant to changing its present character – a low-key, low-budget museum and shrine with the minimum of gimmickry.

The latest businessman with a package of proposals is Mr Gary Foreman, a history buff from Illinois. He is waging a campaign against the Daughters, appealing directly to civic leaders with his ideas for "multimedia presentations of historical subjects" – what most of us know as *son et lumière*.

He says the real failure of the Daughters is in not giving visitors any concept of the real size of the old Alamo or its predecessor, the Mission San Antonio de Valero, which began in 1718 to turn local Indians into Christians (in fact the biggest achievement of the missionaries was to introduce measles and chicken pox, which eventually wiped out most of the local Indian population).

Mrs Kellis Dibreli, the Alamo committee chairman for the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, said adamantly: "We were given instructions by the legislature not to create a battlefield but to create a shrine in memory of 187 men who died here. It is a shrine, not a tourist thing."

And she said that any attempt to extend the present four-and-a-half acre site to anything like its original size would be impossible.

No doubt the Daughters will successfully fight off Mr Foreman in their determination to keep the Alamo a restful, simple monument. Their toughest and overriding battle is to halt the ravages to the ancient walls, to save them as a monument to the spirit of Texas.

Christopher Thomas

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne, Patron of the Royal Lymington Yacht Club, attends the Royal Lymington Cup Match Racing Championships, 11; and later attends a Charity Premiere of *West Side Story* in aid of Richmond Fellowship, at Her Majesty's Theatre, London, 8.15.

Princess Margaret, as President, attends the annual general meeting of the Royal Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in the City Chambers, Edinburgh.

The Duke of Gloucester attends the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland's Conference and reception at Albany Hote., Glasgow, 9.30.

The Duchess of Kent, as Chancellor, will preside at the Congregation for the Conferment of Honorary Degrees at the University of Leeds, 4.25; and later attend dinner for honoray graduates at University House, Leeds, 8.

The Duk e of Kent, as President of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, visits the lifeboat station at Arbroath, 10.

Princess Alexandra, as President, attends the 210th Annual General Court of the Royal Humane Society at the Mansion House, 2.45.

New exhibitions

Paintings and other works – Paul Kelly, and Recent sculpture by Doug Cocker: both exhibitions at Artspace Galleries, 21 Castle St, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (closed Sun – both end June 6).

Paintings by Simon Cook Blake Gallery, Georges Lane, Crewkerne, Somerset; Mon to Sat 10 to 4 (closed Sun – ends May 26).

Dinah Prentice – Sewn Constructions: Central Library, Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes; Mon to Wed 9 to 6, Thurs & Fri 9 to 8, Sat 9 to 5 (closed Sun – ends June 9).

The Development of English Landscape, (watercolours and drawings): loan exhibition, Donnington Priory, Donnington, Newbury; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6 (ends May 19).

Music

Music for brass by the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble at North Worcestershire College, Southside Hall, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, 7.45.

Concert of Beethoven and Holst, Women's Voices of the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, University Great Hall, Exeter, 7.30.

Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta with conductor Jane Glover and soloist Janet Hilton, Colfox School, Bridport, 7.30.

The Forsyth Concert by Anna Markland, (piano), All Saints' Church, Altrincham, Cheshire, 8.00.

English Music of the Twentieth Century Celebration, with choir, orchestra and young London soloists, The Parish Church, St Germans, nr Saltash, 7.30.

Taskin Harpsichord Trio: Priscilla Palmer, (violin), Roger Doe, (viola da gamba), Christopher Herrick, (harpsichord), St Mary's Church, Shaw-cum-Donnington, 8.00.

Concert by the Abbey Singers, Hillsborough, Ulster, Parish Church, 8.00pm.

Recital by Israeli pianist Liora Ziv-Li Felixstowe College Chapel, 7.30pm.

University of East Anglia's Organ Prize recital, Norwich Cathedral, 11.

General

Golden Jubilee of the Morris Ring, dance displays, Victoria *Square, Birmingham*, 3.30.

Leeds University Open Day: preview to meet poeple behind the Open Day.

Supper at the Tontine Hotel, Peebles, Speaker, Professor David Short, Physician to the Queen. Orgainzed by Christian Viewpoint.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,427

ACROSS

1 Boundary maker foiled? (6).
5 Spinner loaded to play roulette? (8).
9 See fight in the ring – it's seen in court too (7-3).
10 Second position in play (4).
11 Hold back in arrest mêlée (8).
12 Leaves a fortune herein? (6).
13 10 crazy to make this attempt (4).
15 Stretch out a gentle round (8).
18 Bang on schedule, this (4,4).
19 Distinctive air of Petrarch's topless lady (4).
21 Astronaut under the typist's thumb? (6).
23 Discharge the conclusion of the errand (8).
25 Dog to keep moving (4).
26 Let down – no tips paid out (10).
27 Star pianist covers the country (8).
28 Ten to one the French break even (6).

DOWN

2 Napoleon on Elba – a one-time French island (5).
3 Artist studies part of Bradshaw (9).
4 "Yet I, a dull and muddy-mettled ——" (*Hamlet*) (6).
5 Bow Street Runners were said to be such fliers (5,10).
6 Harassment to a vixen running wild (8).
7 Scales one in twelve (5).
8 Meet in French bar (9).
14 Book design may have strings attached (9).
16 Statesman happy being overweight? (9).
17 Passage for example out of Philippines Island (8).
20 Depression shown by one of Cleopatra's pretty boys (6).
22 Fellow holds a point to be inferior (5).
24 Live weight? (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,426

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12

Food prices

Of the numerous apples available from New Zealand, the Cape, Chile, France, Italy, Canada and the United States and our own stored fruit, the one with the most interesting background appears to be the New Zealand Gala. A cross-bred Delicious and Cox, the result crossed with Golden Delicious, it sells around 40-52 a pound, which is quite expensive, but then good breeding does not come cheap. Cape Grapes are good value at 60-70p a lb and there are early peaches from Israel at 15-25p each.

Salad ingredients are more plentiful with round English and Dutch lettuce from 20-26p a head and Cos, Webbs and Crispa at 30-40p a head. Spring onions retail at 20-28p a bunch, water cress at 24-28p a bunch and good hothouse tomatoes at 60-85p a lb. Asparagus is widely available in the shops now from Spain, the United States and Hungary, as well as our own, which is the best. English Asparagus is 90-180p a lb, depending on thickness.

Beef prices show little change, a few bargains may be found on the cheaper cuts. Home-produced lamb is still expensive, ranging from £1.65 to £2.50 for a whole leg; £1 to £1.60 for shoulder, and loin chops are £1.80 to £2.84 a lb. Pork prices are stable apart from loin chops, up a penny a lb. It seems strange, then, that bacon wholesale prices are going up by a further £40 a tonne form next week, on top of the £30 a tonne two weeks ago. Some good buys for this weekend are Tesco's New Zealand lamb shoulder at 68p a lb.

The papers

The Daily Mirror points out the discrepancy between Patrick Jenkin's claim that the Prime Minister may soon visit Liverpool and her office's denial. It says: "That would be a pity. The Prime Minister has only been there once in five years. It is time she went again. Time to look at Merseyside's appalling unemployment problem and at the thousands of youngsters there who have never worked and have little prospect of evey doing so. Time to talk to the city councillors who are threatening to break the law and bring in a budget which could bankrupt the city because they can't face up to the alternative. It is also time she looked again at what her government is doing to destroy local councils, including the abolition of Merseyside's Metropolitan Council, for no better reason than that they are Labour-controlled."

Top films

Top box office films in London:
1 (1) Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes
2 (–) The Dead Zone
3 (3) Yentl
4 (2) Terms of Endearment
5 (4) Silkwood
6 (5) Footloose
7 (7) The Dresser
8 (6) Swann in Love
9 (–) The Trouble with Harry
10 (8) Educating Rita

Top five in the provinces:
1 Yentl
2 *Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan,* Lord of the Apes
3 Terms of Endearment
4 Footloose
5 Educating Rita

Compiled by *Screen International*

Anniversaries

Births: **Martha Graham**, choreographer, Pittsburgh, 1839. Deaths: **Matteo Ricci**, Jesuit missionary in China, China, 1610; **William Pitt, 1st Earl of Chatham**, Prime Minister 1756-61, 1766-68, Hayes, Kent, 1778; **Spencer Perceval**, Prime Minister 1809-12, assassinated in the House of Commons by John Bellingham, 1812; **Tom Cribb**, champion bare-knuckle boxer, London, 1848; **Sir John Herschel**, astronomer, Collingwood, Kent, 1871; **Juan Gris**, pioneer of Cubism, Boulogne-sur-Seine, 1927;

Roads

London and South-east: M3: A new contraflow system starts today along the Surrey section of the motorway. The north-bound carriageway will be accommodating two-way traffic between junctions 4 (Frimley) and junction 3 (Lightwater). In addition the entry slip road on to south-bound carriage way at junction 3 will be closed. Expect congestion and approach with care. A113: Temporary lights in Chigwell Road south of Green Lane. A4: Eastbound carriageway reduced at junction of A4 Cromwell Road and Lexham Gardens, Kensington.

Midlands: A34: Roadworks at Tidmington, S of Shipston, Warwickshire. M1: Contraflow between junctions 16 and 18 (Watford Gap, M45 junction): serious delays.

Wales and West: A4: Lane restriction in Hotwell Road, and from Anchor Road/St Georges Road, Bristol, Avon: no right turn into Jacobs Wells Road. A390: Liskeard to Truro Road W of West Taphouse, Cornwall; temporary lights, and at Probus. A470: Cardiff to Merthyr road at North Road flyover in Cardiff.

North: M1: Lane closures north and south-bound between junctions 35 (Rotherham) and junction 37 (Barnsley). A6: Roadworks at New Mills, Derbyshire. Temporary traffic signals and single-lane traffic on Shaw Road, near Arnold Street, Oldham: Arnold Street closed.

Scotland: A85: Stop/go boards in Crieff Road, west of Perth City boundary, Perthshire. A737: Outside lane closed on both carriageways at Ferguslie, E of Fulbar Road, Paisley. M80: Northbound carriageway closed at M9 junction 9, Stirling: diversion operates via the slip roads.

Information supplied by AA.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.58	1.50
Austria Sch	28.30	26.70
Belgium Fr	82.00	78.00
Canada $	1.84	1.77
Denmark Kr	14.56	13.86
Finland Mkk	8.36	7.96
France Fr	12.23	11.63
Germany DM	3.96	3.78
Greece Dr	156.50	146.50
Hongkong $	11.16	10.56
Ireland	1.29	1.23
Italy Lira	2450.00	2350.00
Japan Yen	331.00	315.00
Netherlands Gld	4.48	4.26
Norway Kr	11.28	10.73
Portugal Esc	200.00	190.00
South Africa Rd	2.24	2.08
Spain Pes	217.75	206.75
Sweden Kr	11.75	11.15
Switzerland Fr	3.28	3.11
USA $	1.42	1.37
Yugoslavia Dnr	209.00	189.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 345.1.

London: The *FT* Index closed 11.3 down at 884.9.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on policing in London.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will become established across the British Isles.

6am to midnight

London, SE, E England, East Anglia: Sunny intervals with occasional showers near coasts; wind N or NE moderate to fresh; max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

Central S, SW England, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny periods; wind NE moderate to fresh; max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

W Midlands, S, N Wales, NW, central N England: Dry with sunny periods; wind variable light; max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth: Dry with sunny periods; wind variable light; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: Dry with bright or sunny periods; wind SW light; max temp 11 to 13F (52 to 55F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mostly dry with sunny intervals but scattered showers in SE. Temperatures near normal.

SEA PASSAGES: North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind northeasterly moderate or fresh locally strong later, sea moderate locally rough later. **English Channel (E):** Wind northeasterly moderate or fres.1, sea moderate. **St Georges Channel:** Wind variable light, sea smooth. **Irish Sea:** Wind variable mainly southerly light, sea smooth.

Sun rises: 5.15 am | Sun sets: 8.40 pm
Moon sets: 4.07 pm | Moon rises: 3.46 am
Full Moon: May 15.

Lighting-up time

London 9.10 pm to 4 43 am
Bristol 9.20 pm to 4.53 am
Edinburgh 9.42 pm to 4.36 am
Manchester 9.27 pm to 4.43 am
Penzance 9.26 pm to 5.10 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

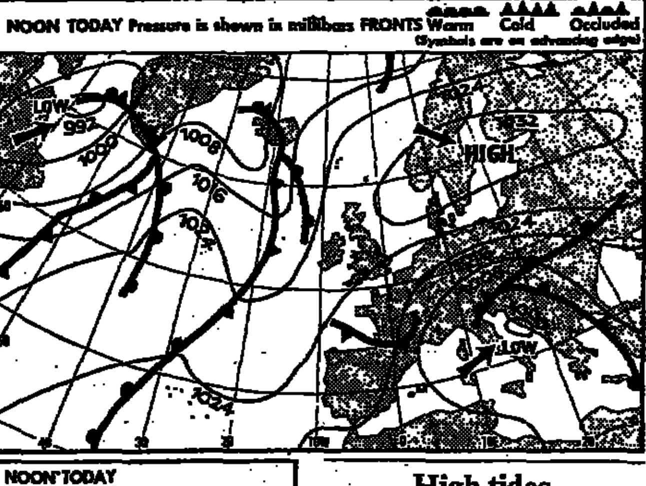
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	11	52	Guernsey	c	10	50
Birmingham	f	13	55	Inverness	c	9	48
Blackpool	r	10	50	Jersey	c	10	50
Bristol	c	14	57	London	c	10	50
Cardiff	c	13	55	Manchester	c	10	50
Edinburgh	f	10	50	Newcastle	s	17	63
Glasgow	f	13	55	Ronaldsway	c	12	54

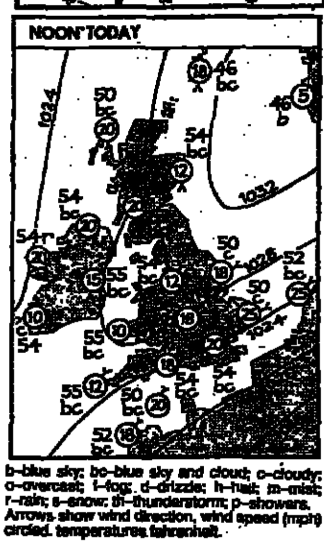
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 9C (48F). Humidity: 6 pm, 83 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.18in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.6 hr. Bar, mean sea level: 6 pm, 1,018.6 millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Highest and lowest

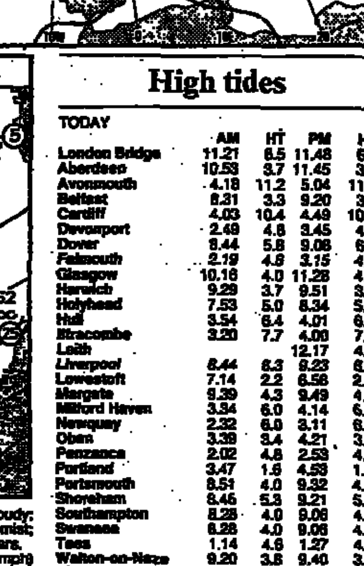
Yesterday: *Highest day temp:* Glasgow Airport, 16C (61F) lowest day max: Cape Wrath, 8C (46F) highest rainfall: Lerwick, 0.61in. highest sunshine: Tiree, 12.8hr.





b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides



TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.21	6.5	11.48	6.4
Aberdeen	10.53	3.7	11.45	3.8
Avonmouth	4.18	11.2	5.04	11.5
Belfast	8.31	3.3	9.20	3.0
Cardiff	4.03	10.4	4.49	10.7
Devonport	2.49	4.8	3.45	4.7
Dover	8.44	5.8	9.08	6.0
Falmouth	2.19	4.8	3.15	4.5
Glasgow	10.16	4.0	11.28	4.1
Harwich	9.29	3.7	9.51	3.5
Holyhead	7.53	5.0	8.34	5.0
Hull	3.54	6.4	4.01	6.4
Ilfracombe	3.20	7.7	4.00	7.9
Leith			12.17	4.9
Liverpool	8.44	8.3	9.23	8.5
Lowestoft	7.14	2.2	6.58	2.2
Margate	9.39	4.3	9.49	4.3
Milford Haven	3.34	6.0	4.14	6.0
Newquay	2.32	6.0	3.11	6.1
Oban	3.39	3.4	4.21	3.2
Penzance	2.02	4.8	2.53	4.7
Portland	3.47	1.6	4.53	1.6
Portsmouth	8.51	4.0	9.32	4.4
Shoreham	8.46	5.3	9.21	5.8
Southampton	8.28	4.0	9.06	4.3
Swansea	8.28	4.0	9.06	4.3
Tees	1.14	4.6	1.27	4.7
Walton-on-Naze	9.20	3.6	9.40	3.7

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	–	.28	9	48	rain
Bridlington	1.5	.18	11	52	rain
Cromer	1.7	–	12	54	bright
Lowestoft	0.7	.02	10	50	cloudy
Clacton	1.0	–	10	50	cloudy
Margate					
Folkestone	2.0	.04	8	46	rain
Hastings	0.9	.04	9	48	rain
Eastbourne	0.7	–	10	50	rain
Brighton	0.7	.09	8	46	rain
Worthing	0.6	.05	10	50	rain
Littlehmptn	1.0	.09	10	50	rain
Bognor R	1.8	.04	11	52	showers
Southsea	3.2	–	14	57	cloudy
Sandown	1.5	–	12	54	cloudy
Bournemth	1.8	–	14	57	cloudy
Poole	1.9	–	15	59	cloudy
Swanage	1.7	–	13	55	cloudy
Weymouth	0.8	–	15	59	cloudy
Exmouth	3.7	–	16	61	cloudy
Torquay	7.6	–	16	61	bright
Falmouth	10.1	–	14	57	sunny
Penzance	9.4	–	16	61	sunny
Guernsey	4.8	–	13	55	bright
Scilly Isles	9.3	–	16	61	sunny
Newquay	9.1	–	16	61	sunny
Ilfracombe	7.0	–	13	55	cloudy
Tenby	6.8	–	15	59	bright
Southport	2.4	.08	13	55	showers
Morecambe	3.4	.10	12	54	showers
Douglas	9.3	–	12	54	sunny
London (Ctrl)	0.6	.18	11	52	thunder
B'ham (Airpt)	3.4	.09	13	55	thunder
Bristol (Ctrl)	1.9	.03	15	59	showers
Cardiff (Ctrl)	2.5	–	15	59	bright
Anglesey	8.4	–	13	55	bright
B'pool (Airpt)	3.3	.05	12	54	thunder
Manchester	2.8	.13	12	54	showers
Nottingham	3.8	.35	13	55	rain
N'cstl-n-Tyne	1.2	.18	9	48	rain
Carlisle	4.7	.05	11	52	showers
Eskdalemuir	7.4	.05	11	52	showers
Prestwick	11.1	–	15	59	sunny
Glasgow	11.5	–	16	61	sunny
Tiree	12.8	–	12	54	sunny
Stornoway	7.8	.01	10	50	sunny

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F
Ajaccio			
Akrotiri	s	23	73
Alexandria	s	30	86
Algiers	f	18	64
Amsterdam	c	9	48
Athens	f	24	75
Bahrain	s	28	82
Barbados*	f	30	86
Barcelona	f	15	59
Beirut		–	–
Belgrade	c	11	52
Berlin	f	10	50
Bermuda*	f	26	79
Biarritz	f	13	55
Boulogne	c	8	46
Bordeaux	s	14	57
Brussels	c	8	46
Budapest			
Bueno Aires*	s	21	70
Cairo	s	32	90
Cape Tn	s	19	66
C'blanca	c	19	66
Chicago*	c	11	52
Cologne	c	10	50
Copenhgn	s	11	52
Corfu	s	21	70
Dallas*	s	19	66
Dublin	c	12	54
Dubrovnik	c	18	64
Faro	s	19	66
Florence	f	15	59
Frankfurt	f	12	54
Funchal	c	18	64
Geneva	s	13	55
Gibraltar	f	18	64
Helsinki	sn	3	37
Hongkong	c	26	79
Innsbruck	c	9	48
Istanbul	s	24	75
Jeddah	s	34	93
Jo'burg	s	20	68
Karachi	s	33	91
Las Palmas	s	23	73
Lisbon	s	18	64
Locarno	c	16	61
L Angeles*	s	24	75
Luxembg	c	9	48
Madrid	s	15	59
Majorca	f	20	68
Malaga	c	21	70
Malta	s	23	73
Melbourne	f	17	63
Mexico C*	s	19	66
Miami*	f	29	84
Milan	f	15	59
Montreal*	f	11	52
Moscow	f	10	50
Munich	r	7	45
Nairobi			
Naples	r	16	61
New Delhi	s	36	97
New York*	f	15	59
Nice	s	17	63
Oslo	s	9	48
Ottawa			
Paris	c	12	54
Peking	s	29	84
Perth	f	16	61
Prague	f	10	50
Reykjavik	c	9	48
Rhodes	s	24	75
Riyadh	s	35	95
Rio de Jan*	s	28	82
Rome	c	17	63
Salzburg	c	13	55
Sao Paulo*	c	29	84
S Francisco*	s	17	63
Santiago*	s	17	63
Seoul	s	24	75
Singapore	f	31	88
Stockholm	c	6	43
Strasbourg			
Sydney	s	18	64
Tangier	c	19	66
Tel Aviv	s	25	77
Tenerife			
Tokyo	s	20	68
Toronto*	c	11	52
Tunis	c	20	68
Valencia			
Vancouver*	c	10	50
Venice	c	13	55
Vienna	r	10	50
Warsaw	f	12	54
Washington*	f	17	63
Zurich	c	12	54

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available